



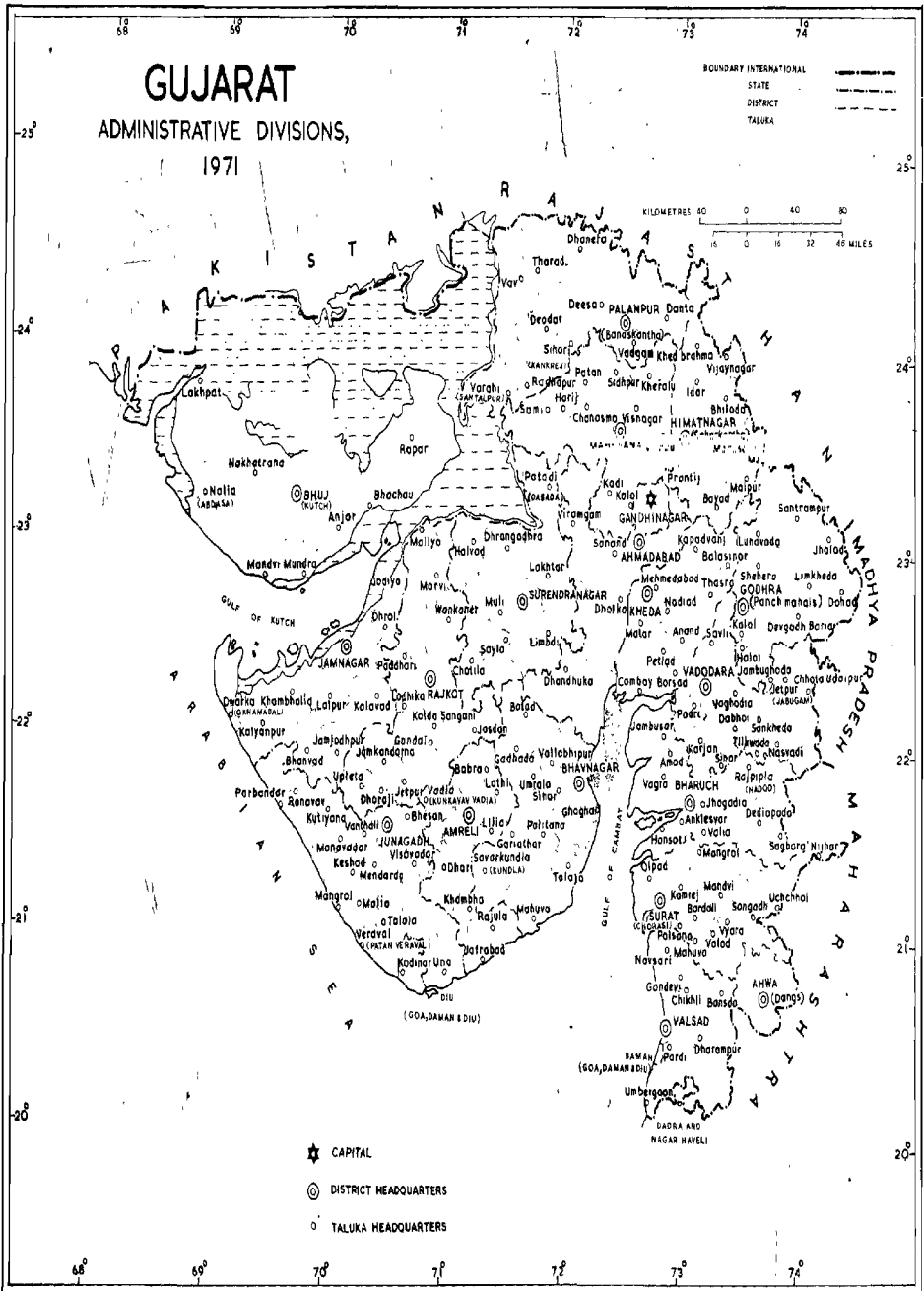
CENSUS OF INDIA
1971

GUJARAT

SERIES-5

A PORTRAIT OF POPULATION

C.C. DOCTOR
OF THE INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE
Director of Census Operations
Gujarat



CENSUS OF INDIA 1971

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*Already Published.

†Published in English and Gujarati.

‡Sanand Town Published.

ERRATA

A PORTRAIT OF POPULATION, GUJARAT

Page No.	Particulars	For	Read
1	2	3	4
x	Statement VII. 2, Page number	200	220
9	1st line, 2nd word	dierct	direct
14	26th line, 6th word	langauges	languages
19	24th line, last word	Gujarat ^a	Gujarat,
19	26th line, last word	km.,	km ² .,
24	18th line, 1st word	nearer %	nearer
35	Last line, 2nd word	Dhrangadhara	Dhrangadhra
36	Last line, last word	taluka's	talukas,
51	21st line, 8th word	Jabughoda	Jambughoda
53	2nd line, last word	stana	stand
53	9th line, 1st word	kilometer	kilometre
56	2nd line, last word	Surendrangar	Surendranagar
75	18th line, 3rd word	predominent	predominant
77	2nd line, last word	converage	converge
91	Last line, last word	course	curse
92	8th line, 1st word	over populated	overpopulated
102	26th line, 1st word	than, 2,000	than 2,000
108	24th line, 4th word	Pardi, Sondhpur	Pardi Sondhpur
124	1st line, 2nd word	Savarkundla	Kundla
125	29th line, 7th word	Vijayanagar	Vijaynagar
128	3rd line, 5th word	Devgad, Baria	Devgad Baria
133	4th line, last word	act	ac-
133	13th line, 9th word	42	41
133	24th line, 10th word	later	latter
135	Statement III. 4 year 1911, last col.	115	155
136	18th line, 1, 2, 3rd words	1951 and 1961	1941 and 1951
141	12th line, 6th word	Desera	Desara
152	11th line, 3, 4 & 5th words	Mandvi and Abdasa	Mundra and Nakhatrana
155	2nd line, 1 & 2nd words	Kalol, Halol,	Kalol, Devgad Baria, Halol
155	3rd line, last word	Kalol Taluka,	Kalol taluka, 943 in Devgad Baria taluka,
155	8th line, 5, 6 & 7th words	Devgad Baria, 943	Blank

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177	23rd line, 7th word	according	according to
187	2nd line, 3rd word	34.79	35.79
187	3rd line, 8th word	61	59
191	last line, last word	efforst	efforts
195	Statement VI. 4, item 3, col. 1	Kuchchhi	Kachchhi
196	Statement VI. 4, item 7, col. 1	Kokna/Kokni	Kokna/Kokni/Kukna
	col. 3	0.54	0.53
	item 9, col. 1	Gamti/Gamit	Gamti/Gavit
196	15th line, 2nd word	Kuchchhi	Kachchhi
197	11th line, 1st word		
199	25th line, 3rd word	Cambay	Kutch
201	15th line, para heading	Kokna or Kokni	Kokna or Kokni or Kukna
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	22nd line, 6, 7 & 8th words		
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	5th line, 5th word		
212	20th line, 10th word	State	national
	22nd line, 1st word		
216	26th line, 6th word	Urban	Urban/
222	12th line, 4th word	porportion	proportion
223	20th line, 9th word	Hindusim	Hinduism
225	21st line, 10th word	religion	religions
226	9th line, 9th word	100,000	1,000
237	9th line, 10th word	73	72
244	28th line, 11th word	5.3	5.34
247	9th line, 8th word	49.98	49.95
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271	15th line, 5th word	stroage	storage
280	8th line, 3rd word	literacy age groups	literacy, age-groups

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FOREWORD

THIS ATTEMPT to produce a popular version of the large census data for the general reader is an important innovation of the 1971 Indian Census. Census publications concerning even a State run into a number of volumes. It is not possible for those who are not specialists to go through them all. At the same time, the basic information contained in the hundreds of Census tables is rich and of significance to a much larger number of the public than is likely to consult the census series. It is with a view to cater for this group of readers grown up as also those who are now in high schools and colleges that this Portrait of Population relating to every state has been produced. It seeks to present in a brief compass all that may be of interest to the general reader and that too in a non-technical language.

I trust this venture will be welcomed and will help to introduce every responsible citizen to the scope and variety of information that is contained in our decennial census reports.

NEW DELHI,
17th October, 1973.

A. CHANDRA SEKHAR,
Registrar General, India.

PREFACE

The Portrait of Population is an attempt to bring to the common reader, the salient features of the 1971 Census. The usual census publications contain figures which do not interest the average man. In the pages that follow an endeavour has been made to present the data in a more interesting and enjoyable manner. The interpretation of data with reference to local conditions and comparisons with other States of India and countries of the world would, it is hoped, make a more meaningful appreciation possible. It would provide a perspective in which the mass of figures could be viewed in a balanced and appropriate manner.

The lack of such a non-technical publication which would satisfy the curiosity of the general reader and prove to be of some use to the undergraduate students was felt since long. It is with a view to meet the need of both the above categories that this publication is being brought out. It is couched in simple language and aims at bringing home the vital statistics that affect us so much in our day to day lives and of which most are blissfully ignorant.

It covers in brief the growth and distribution of population, classification of population by age and sex, literacy, scheduled caste and scheduled tribe population and classification of workers and non-workers of the State. It has been illustrated by graphs and charts at appropriate places.

The pains taken in preparing this volume would be amply rewarded if it is found to be interesting by the general reader and the student community in particular, for whom it is primarily intended.

C.C. DOCTOR,

*Director of Census Operations,
Gujarat.*

AHMADABAD,

August, 1, 1974

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTORY

THIS SMALL book attempts to present a portrait of the population of Gujarat as it stands revealed by the latest census taken in 1971. It is intended for the general reader mainly in Gujarat to familiarise him with the demographic facts of the State.

The point may well be raised whether such a portrait based on the results of the census is relevant or valid at all and if so what makes it so. The answer to this would be that it is very much valid since it is in the nature of modern census-taking to provide the most comprehensive image of the population at the given point of time when the census is taken. It is as detailed a snapshot as can be had and the image that emerges from it provides a good insight into the population of the given area at the time when the census is taken.

It may, therefore, well be worthwhile to examine what a census is and to see modern census taking in India in its historical perspective. It would also be rewarding to have a look not only at the administrative organisation that manages this quite fantastic administrative operation but also at some of the details of the field operations as well.

Census taking is not a new experience to human society either in India or outside. The word 'Census' is derived from the Latin word 'Census' meaning 'to assess' or 'to rate'. A counting of the population of a particular area with a view to 'assessing' or 'rating' for various purposes

and ends is believed to date back to the first or second century, B.C., when the Magistrates in Rome were required to prepare population registers for the purpose of imposing taxes and also to determine the liability of adult males for compulsory military service. The fall of the Roman empire and the subsequent growth and spread of the feudal system briefly put an end to such periodical accounting of the population. It is believed that some form of census-taking existed in ancient Babylonia, China and Egypt as early as 30 centuries before Christ. Much later, in biblical times, Censusing has been hinted at in the Old Testament. Well before the coming of Christ, the prophet Moses carried out a census of the fighting men of Israel. Something like a census is thereafter again met with much later in 1086 A.D. when William the Conqueror conducted a kind of enumeration of English proprietors with a view to determining the extent of their land holdings and their value and liabilities. Chenghis Khan also carried out the census of the people of his conquered territories during the latter part of the 12th century and the early portion of the 13th century A.D. with a view to determining the capacity of these conquered races for taxation.

In our own country the earliest written record where the concept of a population census figures quite definitely is the famous "Arthashastra" or the Principles of Government, by Kautilya. This was during the 3rd century B.C. in the days of the Maurya empire. Kautilya in his Principles of Government recommended the collection of population statistics as a measure of state policy for the purpose of taxation. He examined the subject in detail and described various methods of conducting not

only general population censuses but also specialised economic and agricultural censuses.

The point therefore really is that a census of one kind or another is not new to the experience of the human race and dates back almost to the beginning of civilised society. It is an activity as old as man's first attempts to organise himself and his affairs. That this should have been so is perhaps inevitable. After all if, for example, a mighty ruler of ancient days wished to raise an army to protect his land and gain new territory and if he wished to discover the best means by which he could do so and the extent to which he could build his fighting forces what better ways could there be than to count his people and identify all those who were able-bodied, young and strong enough to carry his arms? Or if a ruler or an administrator wished to know the extent to which he could tax the lands of his people, what better way could there be of doing this wisely than to have a census conducted of the various types of land and their holders and tax them according to their potential? It should not surprise anyone therefore that census-taking in one form or another has been a part of human activity from the very beginning of civilized human societies. Its basic intention has always been the same—to take a count; only the purpose of that count may have differed from place to place and time to time. As society has progressed, and as its needs for different types of information concerning itself have grown and multiplied, the nature and extent of this count has also grown in dimension and census-taking has acquired the same sophistication as society itself has acquired.

In India census-taking has been recognised as an essential of good Government from ancient times and

there is every reason to believe that censuses have been taken in the various territories of the sub-continent from time to time. This would be particularly true of the more enlightened period of ancient Indian history. However a decline in this kind of activity is discernible during mediæval times when the history of the country was also somewhat disturbed. In this, the fate of census-taking in India conforms to the trends noticed in other parts of the world at the corresponding period of their social and political history. What with all the innumerable wars and conflicts that ravaged the sub-continent during this period it is but to be expected that such a feature of peaceful administration as the census would have had little place during these times. For the time being, therefore, census-taking in India took a back seat in the political administration of the country during the mediæval period. But with the advent of the East India Company, better political conditions and the necessity to explore and establish the facts of so vast a country again led to the revival of census-taking. For obvious reasons such as defence, collection of revenue and taxes and employment of the population in profitable trades and services with a view to the maximum exploitation of the human resources that the sub-continent offered, the East India Company was anxious to obtain reliable estimates of the population in its ever-expanding Indian settlements. Its servants therefore turned their hands at obtaining such population estimates from as early as the year 1600. As the quality of the civil servants coming to the service of the East India Company improved and as its territories in the Indian sub-continent expanded from year to year the quality of the census work in the service of the Company also improved by leaps and bounds. Some of the finest demographic work in the

history of Indian Census-taking has been done during this time by the servants of the East India Company. By the time that the British crown took over the Government of the East India Company's territories in the sub-continent demographic methods and practices had already established themselves quite firmly; it only remained for the new generation of the servant of the crown to carry on the good work and improve upon it. This they did with marked excellence to the extent that, by the time the present century had come around, demographic methods and practices not only in the territories of the crown but also in those of the Indian Princes had acquired considerable refinement and sophistication.

Meanwhile, England had begun her census series in 1801 and the English Parliament was naturally anxious to ascertain the population of the dependencies and territories of the empire also. It took some time to plan and carry out systematic censuses, but the counts taken during the years between 1820 and 1830, even though they did not satisfy the requirements of a modern census, gave some of the best estimates that any country could have under comparable circumstances, and prepared the ground for modern census-taking in India. The Census of Dacca City carried out in 1830 by Henry Walter was perhaps the first complete census of an Indian city which classified the population by sex and broad age-groups, the houses and structures by building characteristics, storey and other amenities lodgers and inmates and the population again by as many as 132 caste-occupations.

It was out of this generation of census activity that the idea of regular decennial or ten yearly census was eventually born. In 1856 the Government of India

considered the means by which the general census of the population of India might be taken in 1861. The undertaking was however postponed in consequence of the Mutinies of 1857 and afterwards regular censuses of individual territories, however, continued. In the meantime, Lord Mayo had been appointed Governor General and W.W. Hunter was appointed as Director General of Statistical Surveyor in 1869. Under their combined leadership, the Statistical Organisation thereafter moved quickly. In 1865 the Government of India and the British Government had already agreed upon the principle that a general population Census of India should be taken in 1871. The years 1867 to 1872 were spent in taking a census by the actual counting of heads in as much of the country as was possible. This series, commonly known as the Census of 1872, was neither a single project nor one that covered the entire territory under the possession or control of the British. Neither was it centrally supervised, moderated or compiled. But it was based on a uniform set of schedules and was inspired by modern concepts. The limitations which deprived it from being considered as a modern census were quite clearly seen. Therefore, by the time that the 1881 Census came around, enough thought and preparation had been given to the subject to make that census a modern synchronous and comprehensive operation. Not only did this census stimulate for over the next 80 years one of the most thorough-going inquiries ever to be conducted into the social structure in any part of the world but was also responsible for the exceptional and unique Linguistic Survey of India.

We can therefore now conclude this historical perspective of the Indian Census by finally remarking that the

foundation stone of modern census-taking in India was laid by the 1867-72 group of censuses known together as the Census of 1872. In 1881 the first complete census of the population on uniform basis was conducted throughout India providing the most complete and continuous demographic record for any comparable population. Since then the Indian Census has never looked back and the Census of India has been taken every 10 years regularly thereafter.

Throughout this long and chequered history the Census of India has been more than a mere counting of the number of human beings. It has gone much beyond this limited purpose and has recorded data at various times not only on the population of the country but also on its diverse languages, castes, cultures, religions, economic activities, and other such subjects which are now basic to population studies. Free India got in succession demographic and statistical organisation already enjoying rich and varied experience. Our own Census Act which makes the taking of a census every ten years compulsory, was passed as Law in 1948. It was not, however, until after the Census of 1951 that the Census Organisation in India acquired anything like a permanent base. Until the Census of 1951 the Census Organisation used to be set up shortly before a census was due to be taken and was then wound up shortly after the work of that census was over. Following the Census of 1961 the Census Organisation now exists in permanent form.

We may now next briefly look at this organisation which manages the vast operation that the Census of India is and has always been.

The census is a Central Government subject. The organisation whose duty it is to conduct the censuses and to process and present its results consists of a Census Commission at the national level which is headed by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India. He is assisted by a number of Deputy and Assistant Registrar Generals in charge of administrative and technical matters. The Office of the Registrar General is further sub-divided into Divisions and Cells which independently handle the various specialised parts of the entire census process such as languages, social studies, cartography, data processing and so on. All policy matters relating to the census are decided at the national level and implemented through the Census organisation. The organisation at the State level consists of a Directorate of Census Operations, each responsible and answerable to the Census Commissioner. The state-level organisation is headed by a Director and ex-officio Superintendent of Census Operations as its head. He is assisted by a number of Deputy and Assistant Directors to assist him as much in the organisation and conduct of the field operations as in administration at headquarters and the compilation and tabulation of the census data. The census in every State is itself taken through the State Government machinery. The head of the District administration in each district is designated as the Census Officer for his District and is charged with the duty of having the census conducted in all parts of his district through the subordinate staff appointed for this purpose. The Assistant of the head of the district administration as well as the heads of subordinate offices under him who head the lower administrative offices such as sub-divisional and taluka offices are also appointed Census Officers for their respective jurisdictions. In areas not under

the direct administrative control of the head of the district administration or his subordinates, such as Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, Forest Settlement Villages, Railway Colonies and so on, the heads of such other local bodies or departments or their nominees are appointed as Census Officers. All these appointments are made under the Census Act and therefore certain duties towards the taking of the census automatically devolve upon these appointees. The actual enumeration itself is conducted through the agency of an army of volunteer enumerators who are drawn from various departments in the district. Usually they consist of subordinate staff of municipal corporations, nagar panchayats, primary school teachers and talatis. However in special areas like forest villages, railway colonies and such other 'special areas' the employees of the respective departments are employed for enumeration. Training to the State level organisation in matters relating to the census concepts is imparted by the Census Commission who also issues the necessary instructions and orders for the taking of the census. The State level organisation in turn trains the district level machinery for the taking of the Census and the further subordinate levels are trained by the Census Officers in the field, guided and assisted by the State level organisation.

Once the census has been taken, the entire census records are sent to the State Level Directorate for further processing, compilation and tabulation. Large Tabulation Offices are briefly created by the State Directorate of Census Operations for the processing of this data. It is processed in a number of Regional Tabulation Offices, each under the administrative control and direction of a Deputy or Assistant Director, assisted by a number of

administrative and technical hands. Once the records of each region have been processed and the data in respect of individual district and the concerned region has been compiled and tabulated it is again centralized at the Directorate and data is then put together for the whole State in the order in which it is required for the purpose of final publication.

The conduct of the census is a meticulously organised operation and no detail is overlooked. It is generally operationally convenient to use the existing administrative structure for the proper conduct of the census. The entire State is divided into a vast number of enumerator's blocks and each block is then placed under the charge of an enumerator whose sole responsibility is to ensure complete enumeration of all in that block. Normally the village, which is the smallest administrative unit, is sufficiently viable to be treated as an enumerator's block. Sometimes when the population of a village is too large to be handled by a single enumerator in the enumeration time allowed to him, more than one enumerators are appointed to take the census of such a village. Conversely, the reverse can also be true. In urban areas, on the other hand, where no such things corresponding to a village in terms of administrative units exist, the existing structure of municipal wards is taken as it is and these wards are further subdivided into enumerator's blocks, for each of which an enumerator is then appointed. At the time of carving out these blocks, every care is taken to ensure that no overlapping takes place and that the jurisdictions of the various enumerators are clearly marked and understood and that no enumerator will overlook any unit in his block or cover that of another block. To facilitate clear

demarcation of jurisdictions, blocks therefore normally run from one recognizable street or part of it to another or from one numbered house to another. The ideal size of the rural or urban block is predetermined in advance keeping in view the number of days over which the enumeration is to be conducted, the density of population, the pattern of habitation, the complexity of the questionnaire to be canvassed and so on. At the 1971 Census the ideal size of a rural block was fixed at one with a population of 750 to 1,000 persons and that of an urban block as one containing 600 to 750 persons. But it could be contracted or stretched as required from 600 to 1,150 in rural areas and 500 to 850 in urban areas.

The Indian Census is well-known for, apart from other things, being among the best conducted censuses in the world. How is this achieved? We have already seen how the Organisation for census-taking is built up from the national and state levels, right down to the level of a village. Once the enumerator's blocks have been carved out and enumerators appointed and trained, all that remains to be done is to ensure that not a single person is missed out from the enumeration or counted more than once and that the enumeration is completed in time. The enumeration itself is not a one-day affair but is spread out over a number of days during which the enumerator goes from house to house counting all the persons present in the house and those who are normally resident and are expected to be in the area of enumeration during the enumeration period. Even the houseless are not missed. A constant watch is kept for houseless persons on the move and one particular day is reserved when the houseless can

be counted at night at an hour when they would normally have halted at some place and struck camp.

Since the 1961 Census the enumeration procedures have been made even more perfect, thanks to the housing census conducted before every census. Before beginning the enumeration of the population the enumerator is expected to completely and accurately enumerate and prepare a record of all the structures in his enumeration block. He is also expected to completely identify the number of households living in this structure. By this method he can then conduct the enumeration from one house to the next and from one household to the next, in the process ensuring that not a single house or household is missed and that no individual in any house or household is missed or enumerated more than once. This method leaves only the houseless to be accounted for; these are accounted for as already described on a particular night, usually on the last night of the census. Great care is taken to enumerate even floating population, those coming in on ships and boats from sea or those living on boats along harbours and river banks and so on.

The Indian Census is an immense administrative operation and the product of one of the greatest co-operative endeavours. That it has been so greatly successful is a tribute to the willing cooperation of every citizen and the vast army of honorary workers who come gladly to the task of census-taking.

Since the present portrait of the population is based on the results of the 1971 Census, it may be worthwhile to briefly examine the various census schedules and the concepts and definitions that were adopted. The questionnaire and concepts are developed and finalised after a long

process of consultation and field trials. Since the data is intended primarily for data users in the country, it is largely these data users that are taken into confidence when finalizing the schedules, and the questionnaire and concepts are finalised only after this process of mutual consultation and field trials. It is, of course, not always possible to accommodate the innumerable demands of the large body of data users for the collection of various types of data. The size of the operation and resources and the type and calibre of census enumeration staff has constantly to be kept in mind when deciding what can be attempted at a census. Ultimately the questionnaire and concepts canvassed are those that can be with a reasonable amount of accuracy successfully canvassed and are likely to fulfil the greatest common good.

The main schedule of the 1971 census was the Individual Slip. This questionnaire was filled in respect of every individual who was asked to reply to the 17 questions in the slip. Some of these questions were further sub-divided into sub-parts. Almost the entire compilation and tabulation that followed was based largely on the data contained in these slips. Every person was asked his name, sex and age. The name was asked purely for the purpose of identification and questions on sex and age were asked because the break-up of the population by sex and age-groups is by now a basic feature of information on the population. Every person was also asked to state his relationship to the head of the household. For the purpose of the census any person who was responsible for the taking of decision on behalf of the household was treated as the head of the household. All other members of a household would then have a relationship

with reference to such a head. This was an important item of data since the composition of households is an important feature of demographic information. Q.5 of the Individual Slip related to the marital status of each individual. The census recognizes four heads of marital status, viz., married, never married, widowed and divorced or separated. There was a further related question for women who happened to be married at the time of the census. Such women were asked to state their age at marriage and whether any child had been borne to them in the last one year. Three questions 7, 8 and 9, related to data on migration. Q.7 required every person to state his place of birth and whether it was rural or urban. He was also required to state the District, State and Country in which his place of birth is located. He was next required to state, in the same pattern as the above, his place of last residence and whether it was rural or urban and the district, state and country of its location. He was lastly required to state the duration of his residence at the place where he was enumerated. Collectively these questions were designed to throw up detailed information on the nature and pattern of migration, or the movement of the population from place to place. Q.10 related to religion and every person had to state his religion. Qs. 11 to 15 related to Scheduled Castes/Tribes, literacy, educational levels, mother tongues, and other languages spoken respectively. Against these questions every person had to state whether he was a member of a Scheduled Caste or Tribe and whether he was literate or illiterate. The census recognizes any person who can read and write as being literate. All significant educational levels attained by each person in various disciplines were also recorded. Languages spoken by the person as well as his mother

tongue were also recorded. Q.16, which was sub-divided into six sub-parts related to the economic activity of each person. First of all part (a) of the question was designed to identify each person broadly according to whether he was a worker or a non-worker and the specific type of worker or non-worker that he may be. The broad identification of workers was restricted to cultivation, agricultural labour, household industries and other work and that of non-workers to household work, studies, retired persons and rentiers, dependents, beggars and other persons of independent means for securing which they do not have to work, inmates of institutions such as jails, etc., and all others who do not fall into any of these categories but are nevertheless economically inactive. The remaining five parts were thereafter required to be filled in only in respect of workers. These identified each person's place of work, the name of the establishment where he was employed, the nature of industry, trade, profession or service in which he was engaged, the description of his own actual work and the class of worker according to whether he was an employer or an employee or a self-employed person or a family worker. Q.17 similarly consisted of six parts, parts (ii) to (vi) being the same as those in Q.16 and part (i) identifying the broad category of worker. This question was asked to all persons whether one was a worker or a non-worker and the data regarding secondary economic activity was collected for all the persons enumerated.

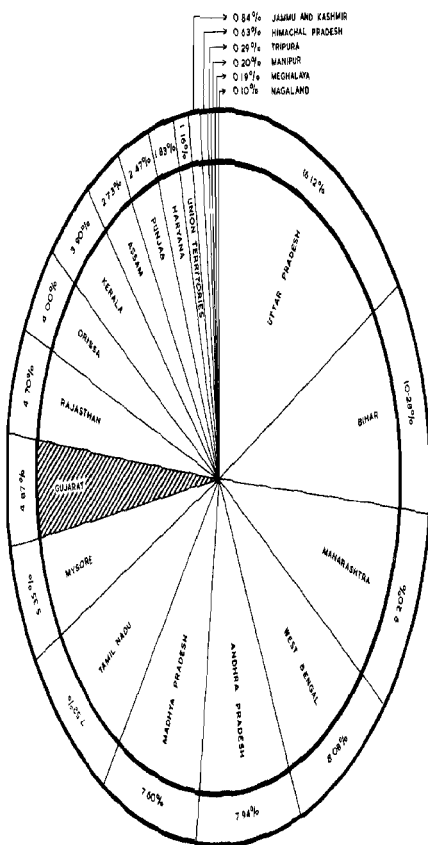
It is from the results of the processing, compilation and tabulation of the data recorded in these schedules for the population of the whole State that this portrait has been built. What is being attempted here is no more

than a broad picture of certain basic characteristics of the population of Gujarat. The areas covered will include the size of the general population, its distribution and density, its growth rate over the past decade, its rural/urban composition, sex ratio and literacy. The portrait will also give some idea of the various mother tongues that we in Gujarat speak and the religions that we follow and the pursuits that engage us. Finally the weaker sections of our community which go under the label of Scheduled Castes and Tribes will also receive special coverage. Any reader who is interested in a more detail insight into such aspects of our population as the Census of 1971 has thrown up must go to the various specialised census publications, a number of which have already been published and the rest of which are being brought out as quickly as possible.

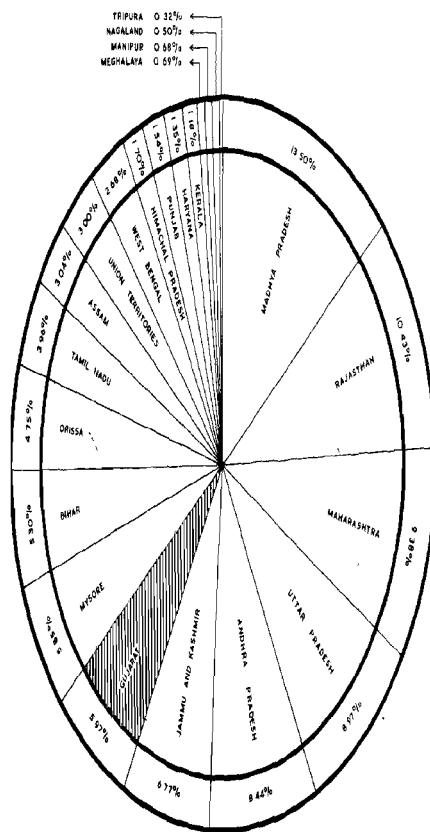
In the next few chapters we will now talk mainly about ourselves as the Census of 1971 shows us to be.

CENSUS, 1971

AREA



INDIA : 547,949,809 PERSONS



INDIA: 3,280,483 SQ.KMS.

CHAPTER II

OUR GROWING NUMBERS AND DISTRIBUTION

Size of the population

ANY TALK of ourselves must necessarily start with the question as to how many we are. We in Gujarat number 26,697,475 people scattered over 19 districts, 184 talukas, 216 towns and cities and 18,697 villages. Is that a great number? The answer depends on how one looks at it. At best it is a relative question and depends on one's point of view. The question might, to some extent, answer itself if we compare the population of Gujarat with that of a few other States which are about the same size as Gujarat and a few other countries of a comparable size. Gujarat has a total area of 195,984 km². which accounts for 5.98 per cent of the total geographical area of the country. This means that Gujarat claims nearly six out of every 100 km². of the country's geographical area. This area contains a total of 26,697,475 people who together account for 4.87 per cent of the national population. This means that about five out of every 100 Indians live in Gujarat. Let us compare this with Mysore, which has a total area of 191,773 km². amounting to 5.85 per cent of the national area and is thus the closest to Gujarat State in geographical size. Mysore State has a population of 29,299,014 people which is 5.35 per cent of the national population. Thus, Mysore State, with a lesser area than ours, has a higher population than Gujarat, and if this population in the two States were to be evenly distributed throughout the land area available Gujarat would have 136 persons per square kilometre as against Mysore's 153. An even more extreme

example is that of Bihar State. This State has an area of only 173,876 km². which is somewhat less than Gujarat's 195,984 km². Nevertheless Bihar accommodates a population of 56,353,369 people, which is 10.28 per cent of the national¹ Population as against 4.87 per cent in the case of Gujarat. It can, therefore, be expected that the density of the population in Bihar is quite thick. This, in fact, is correct. The density of the population in Bihar is 324 persons per km². as against 136 in the case of Gujarat and 153 in the case of Mysore. Looking at it this way we see that though both Bihar and Mysore are somewhat smaller than Gujarat the population of both the States is higher than that of Gujarat and the population of Bihar is very much higher than Gujarat's. Therefore, comparatively speaking, our numbers in Gujarat are not all that startlingly high as they might be. And the density of our population is lower not only than that of other States of comparable size but also lower than the national average, which is 178 persons per km².

Carrying the comparison a little further, how do we stand in comparison with some other countries of the world? Unfortunately, there are not very many countries which have taken their last Census at a comparable period with our own and also have about the same area as Gujarat. But Cuba, Syria and Guyana are fairly close to Gujarat in size. Syria is the closest in area to Gujarat. It measures 185,180 km²., which is 10,804 km². less than the area of Gujarat. This country, at its Census of 1970, had a population of only 6,294,000 people. This gives a density of 34 persons per km²., which is far less than Gujarat's 136 persons per km². Cuba, the Census of which was also taken in 1970, has an area of 114,524 km²., which is 81,460 km². less than Gujarat's area. This country has a

population of 8,553,395. The density of the population of Cuba per km², is therefore 75. Lastly we may take Guyana, which is bigger than Gujarat by 18,985 km². This country returned a population of only 714,000 persons in 1970. By themselves these figures might indicate something of the disparity between the population of these countries and that of Gujarat in relation to the total area of each. How greatly this disparity is marked will appear fully clear from the percentage differences between area and population. The area of Cuba is 41.56 per cent less than that of Gujarat and its population is 67.96 per cent less than that of Gujarat. What this means is that the proportion of area between Gujarat and Cuba is 100:58 approximately and the proportion of population is 100:32 per km². Similarly Syria has an area which is 5.51 per cent less than Gujarat's but a population which is as low as 76.42 per cent less than Gujarat's. In the same way, even though the area of Guyana is 9.69 per cent more than that of Gujarat its population is as low as 3.77 per cent of the population of Gujarat.

This pattern, if anything, is even more marked in respect of some other countries where also the Census was taken in 1970. In some of these countries, even though they have an area far in excess of the area of Gujarat² their population still remains much less than our own. For example, Argentina has an area of 2,776,889 km., but a population of only 23,364,431 persons. Thus even though Argentina has an area which is about thirteen times larger than Gujarat, its population is only 88 per cent of Gujarat. Similarly, Ghana, with an area of 238,537 km², has a population of 8,545,561. This means that even though Ghana has an area which is 21.71 per cent more than

ours, its population is as little as 67.99 per cent less than ours.

The conclusive manner by which this difference between the population of Gujarat in relation to its area and that of other countries in relation to their areas may be appreciated is by working out the density of population. That is to say that, given the particular area of Gujarat or any other country and the population of each, if the population were to be evenly spread out, what would it amount to per km²? This is known as the density of the population. The density of the population of Gujarat as calculated in this manner is 136 persons per km². as against this that of Argentina, which is much bigger than Gujarat, is only 8 persons per km².; that of Cuba, which is a bit smaller than Gujarat, is only 75 persons; that of Ghana which is bigger than Gujarat, is 36 persons; that of Syria, which is just a bit smaller than Gujarat is 34 persons; that of Guyana which is a little bigger than Gujarat is 3 persons, and that of Poland, which is much bigger than Gujarat, is only 104 persons.

What the above discussion should help to point out is that the population of Gujarat as compared to other States of the country of comparable size is not as high as it could but as compared to international standards it is very high.

Distribution of the population

We have briefly referred above to the density of the population and have tried to see what would be the population per km². of Gujarat and the other States and countries we have looked at if it were to be evenly distributed throughout its area. In actual practice, however, it is never possible to achieve this even distribution and

many areas remain uninhabitable on account of various reasons. Before taking a detailed look at the density of the population let us first see how we lie distributed in our own State. We have already seen that Gujarat State consists of 19 districts, 184 talukas, 216 towns and 18,697 villages in which our population lives. It is not possible that the pattern of our distribution in all these districts, talukas and villages is the same everywhere because the conditions that govern the manner in which we choose the places where we live and work will differ from place to place. So let us first look at the way we are distributed in the various districts of our State.

The district of Ahmadabad with a population of 2,910,307 persons ranks first among our districts in population size. Kheda district with a population of 2,451,387, Mahesana with a population of 2,092,468, Vadodara with 1,980,065 and Panch Mahals with 1,848,804 persons rank 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th respectively. The next group of five in order of ranking in population size from sixth to tenth are the districts of Surat, Junagadh, Rajkot, Valsad and Bhavnagar in that order. Surat has a population of 1,786,924, Junagadh of 1,656,677, Rajkot of 1,624,072, Valsad of 1,428,742 and Bhavnagar of 1,405,285. The third lot, ranking from eleventh to fifteenth, consists of the districts of Banas Kantha, with a population of 1,265,383, Sabar Kantha with 1,187,637, Jamnagar with 1,111,343, Bharuch with 1,109,601 and Kutch with 849,769, these ranking 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th in the above order. The population of the remaining four districts of the State is less than 1,000,000 each. Amreli district ranks sixteenth with a population of 848,730, Surendrangar ranks seventeenth with a population of 845,454, Gandhinagar

is eighteenth with 200,642 and The Dangs ranks last with 94,185.

It would be interesting to go a step beyond the ranking of the districts and also see their distribution according to population range sizes. The Dangs district which is the smallest district of the State has a population less than 100,000. Gandhinagar which is the next smallest district has a population of only 200,642. The districts of Kutch, Amreli and Surendranagar have a population between 845,000 to 850,000. Thus The Dangs district stands as a unique case by itself by the small size of its population but it has also to be remembered that unlike other districts except Gandhinagar, it is only a single-taluka district. The remaining four districts, namely, Gandhinagar, Surendranagar, Amreli and Kutch have a population range between 200,000 to 850,000. Six districts, namely, Valsad, Bhavnagar, Banas Kantha, Sabar Kantha, Jamnagar and Bhavnagar have a population range between 1,000,000 to 1,500,000. The districts of Vadodara, Panch Mahals, Surat, Junagadh and Rajkot have a population range between 1,500,000 to 2,000,000. Only three districts have population above 2,000,000. Of these, the districts of Kheda and Mahesana have a population range of 2,000,000 to 2,500,000 and Ahmadabad district rises above 2,500,000. The actual grouping of these districts according to these population size ranges from the smallest to the highest would be as follows:

STATEMENT II.1

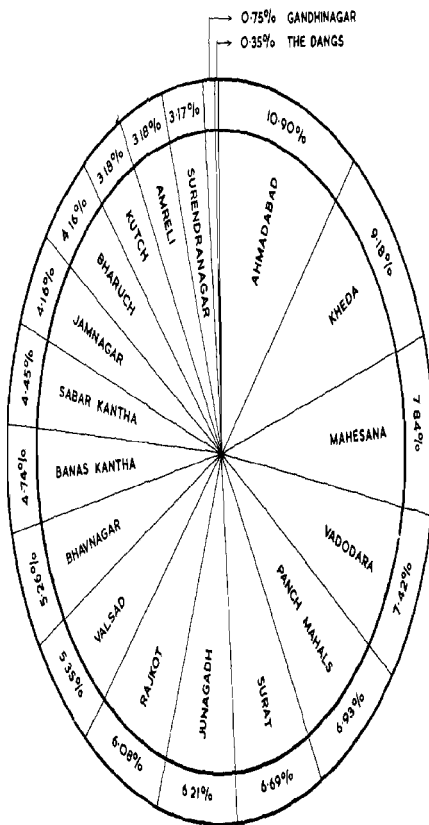
Grouping of districts by population size ranges in descending order

	Name of District	Population
(1) Less than 100,000	The Dangs	94,185

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND AREA: DISTRICTS OF GUJARAT

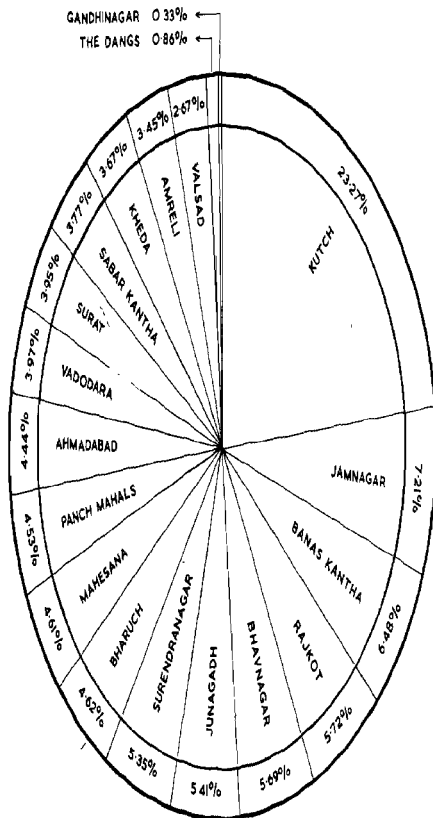
CENSUS, 1971

POPULATION



GUJARAT : 26,697,475 PERSONS

AREA



GUJARAT : 195,984 SQ. K.MS.

	Name of District	Population
(2) 100,000 to 1,000,000	Gandhinagar	200,642
	Surendranagar	845,454
	Amreli	848,730
	Kutch	849,769
(3) 1,000,000 to 1,500,000	Bharuch	1,109,601
	Jamnagar	1,111,343
	Sabar Kantha	1,187,637
	Banas Kantha	1,265,383
	Bhavnagar	1,405,285
	Valsad	1,428,742
(4) 1,500,000 to 2,000,000	Rajkot	1,624,072
	Junagadh	1,656,677
	Surat	1,786,924
	Panch Mahals	1,848,804
	Vadodara	1,980,065
(5) 2,000,000 to 2,500,000	Mahesana	2,092,468
	Kheda	2,451,387
(6) Above 2,500,000	Ahmadabad	2,910,307

How does the population size of our districts compare with the average population size of a district in India as a whole and in other States? Taking the total population of the State and dividing it by the number of our districts we arrive at the average population size of 1,405,130. This is just a little short of the national average of district population, which is 1,539,185 persons per the average district. We have earlier compared some of the figures for our State with those of the States of Bihar and Mysore because we found that these States are more or less the same size as Gujarat. So it would be worthwhile to compare our average district population with that of these States also and of Orissa, another State which offers scope for comparison. Mysore State which is nearly the same size as Gujarat has an average district population of 1,542,053

which is slightly higher than the average for Gujarat. Bihar State which is somewhat smaller than Gujarat has an even much higher average district population. The average district population there is 3,314,904 which is little less than two and half the average district population of district in Gujarat. Lastly, Orissa State, which is also somewhat smaller than Gujarat, has an average district population of 1,688,047. It would be interesting to examine the average district population of various States of the country even though there is a considerable variation in the size of these States. The State of Assam which is nearly one half of Gujarat in area and population has nearly a comparable population per district. In Gujarat average population per district is 14.05 lakhs whereas in Assam it is 14.96 lakhs. The second small State of Haryana with an area of 44,222 km². and a population of 100.4 lakhs has also an average population per district, very much nearer % to that of Gujarat being 14.34 lakhs. Thus even though area and population size of some of the States are not comparable with that of Gujarat the average population size of the district is very much comparable. For the sake of general interest we might tabulate the average district population size of the other States which we have not touched so far. The information regarding each of these remaining States is tabulated in Statement II.2.

As a postscript on the subject we may well ask ourselves as to the number of our districts which have a population size equal to or more than the national district average and those which have a population size less than the national district average. The districts of Ahmadabad, Mahesana and Kheda each have a population much above the national district average. The districts of Vadodara,

Panch Mahals, Surat, Junagadh and Rajkot also have a population above the national district average. All the remaining eleven districts of the State have a population less than the national district average, though Valsad and Bhavnagar districts are fairly close to the national district average. How the population of each district compares with the national district average which is 1,539,185 can be seen from the population figures of each district appearing earlier in this chapter.

We have seen the distribution of the population at the district level. It would be of considerable interest to next examine the position at the taluka level in each district and see the distribution of the talukas of each district according to population size ranges. We will deal with the districts according to rank on the basis of geographical size.

(1) *Kutch District*:—Kutch district is the State's largest district and accounts for nearly a quarter of the geographical area of the State. More accurately speaking, this district measures 45,612 km². and accounts for 23.27 per cent of the total geographical area of the State. However, its population is only 849,769, which is a meagre 3.18 per cent of the total State population. Thus, only about 3 out of every 100 persons in the State live in that nearly one quarter part of the total geographical area of the State constituted by Kutch district; the remaining 97 out of every 100 persons live in the remaining nearly three quarters of the State. Thus, even though Kutch district is the largest district of the State and ranks first in geographical size, its rank according to population is ~~seventeenth~~ ^{seventeenth} among the 19 districts of the State. The reason for this simply is

STATEMENT II.2

Statement showing the area and population of all States and Union territories and their percentage to total national area and population

Name of State or Union Territory	Area in km ²	Population	State area as % of national area	State population as % of national population	No. of Districts	Average population size of District
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
INDIA	3,280,483	547,949,809	100.00	100.00	356	1,539,185
1 Andhra Pradesh	276,754	43,502,708	8.44	7.94	21	2,071,558
2 Assam*	99,610	14,957,542	3.04	2.73	10	1,495,754
3 Bihar	173,876	56,353,369	5.30	10.28	17	3,314,904
4 Gujarat	195,984	26,697,475	5.98	4.87	19	1,405,130
5 Haryana	44,222	10,036,808	1.35	1.83	7	1,433,830
6 Himachal Pradesh	55,673	3,460,434	1.70	0.63	10	346,043
7 Jammu & Kashmir†	222,236	4,616,632	6.77	0.84	10	461,663
8 Kerala	38,864	21,347,375	1.18	3.90	10	2,134,738
9 Madhya Pradesh	442,841	41,654,119	13.50	7.60	43	968,700
10 Maharashtra	307,762	50,412,235	9.38	9.20	26	1,938,932
11 Manipur	22,356	1,072,753	0.68	0.20	5	† 214,550
12 Meghalaya	22,489	1,011,699	0.69	0.19	2	505,850

13	Mysore	191,773	29,299,014	5-85	5-35	19	1,542,053
14	Madras	16,527	5,049	0-50	0-10	3	172,150
15	Orissa	155,842	21,949,615	4-75	4-00	13	1,688,047
16	Punjab	50,362	12,551,060	1-54	2-47	11	1,231,915
17	Rajasthan	342,234	25,765,806	10-43	4-70	26	990,993
18	Tamil Nadu	130,049	99,068	3-96	7-52	14	2,942,798
19	Tripura	10,477	1,556,342	0-32	0-28	3	518,781
20	Uttar Pradesh	294,413	88,341,144	8-97	16-12	54	1,635,947
21	West Bengal	87,853	44,312,011	2-68	8-08	16	2,769,501
22	Andaman & Nicobar Island	8,293	115,133	0-25	0-02	1	115,133
23	Arunachal Pradesh	83,578	467,511	2-55	0-09	5	93,502
24	Chandigarh	114	257,251	N	0-05	1	257,251
25	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	491	74,170	0-01	0-01	1	74,170
26	Delhi	1,485	4,065,698	0-05	0-74	1	4,065,698
27	Goa, Daman & Diu	3,813	857,771	0-12	0-16	3	285,923
28	Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi	32	31,810	N	0-01	1	31,810
29	Pondicherry	480	471,707	0-01	0-09	4	117,926

* Includes Miz District, now constituted as Union Territory of Mizoram.

† Includes 84,112 km². of area under the illegal occupation of Pakistan.

that a vast portion of the district is no more than uninhabitable swamp marshes or desert and semi-desert land and only a much smaller portion of it is habitable. The Rann of Kutch is not a very inviting place and the major portion of it is without any human habitation at all.

The district consists of the nine talukas of Bhuj, Mundra, Mandvi, Abdasa, Lakhpat, Nakhatrana, Rapar Bhachau and Anjar. Of these the least densely populated is Lakhpat taluka which has a population of only 21,960 people. Mundra and Abdasa talukas rank next with a population of 57,079 and 74,165 respectively. The talukas of Nakhatrana, Rapar and Bhachau have population ranging between 75,000 and 99,999. Rapar taluka with a population of 99,173 is the largest in this group followed by Nakhatrana (92,254) and Bhachau (79,016). Each of the three remaining talukas of the district, namely, Bhuj, Mandvi and Anjar has a population of over 100,000. Bhuj taluka is the largest of this group as well as the largest taluka in the district with a population of 167,443. It is followed by Anjar taluka with 143,133 and by Mandvi with 115,546. It will thus be seen that one of the nine talukas of Kutch district is in the population range of 20,000 to 29,999, two talukas in the range of 50,000 to 74,999, three talukas in the range of 75,000 to 99,999 and three talukas in the range of 100,000 to 199,999.

(2) *Jamnagar District*:—The next in rank in geographical area is Jamnagar district which measures 14,125 km². and accounts for 7.21 per cent of the total geographical area of the State. Thus, a little over seven out of every 100 km². of the State is under Jamnagar district. It is thus nearly one-third the size of Kutch district, the

difference between the geographical size of which district and Jamnagar's is considerable. Nevertheless, its population size is considerably higher than that of Kutch. It has a population of 1,111,343 which is 4.16 per cent of the total State population. It has ten talukas of which the largest in population size is Jamnagar taluka, followed by Khambhalia and Kalavad talukas. Then there is a group of five talukas in the population range of 75,000 to 99,999. These, according to rank in population size, are the talukas of Jam-Jodhpur, Kalyanpur, Okha-Mandal, Bhanvad and Jodiya. Lalpur taluka, which is the second smallest of ten talukas, has a population of 72,142 and Dhrol, the smallest taluka, has a population of 45,118. The break-up of the talukas of the district by population size ranges is as follows :

STATEMENT II.3

Distribution of talukas of Jamnagar district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges						
		20,000 to 29,999	30,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jamnagar	10	..	1	1	5	2	1	
1	Jamnagar	..	..	..	..	..	360,133	
2	Lalpur	..	..	72,142	..	..	..	
3	Jam-Jodhpur	..	..	..	97,236	..	..	
4	Bhanvad	..	..	..	76,124	..	..	
5	Kalyanpur	..	..	..	91,595	..	..	
6	Okha-Mandal	..	..	..	76,803	..	..	
7	Khambhalia	..	..	..	..	115,448	..	
8	Jodiya	..	..	..	75,140	..	..	
9	Dhrol	..	45,118	..	..	..	..	
10	Kalavad	..	..	..	..	101,604	..	

(3) *Banas Kantha District*:—This district ranks third in geographical area but eleventh in population size. It measures 12,702 km²., which accounts for 6.8 per cent of the total geographical area of the State, and has a population of 1,265,383, which is 4.74 per cent of the total State population. None of its eleven talukas has a population of less than 50,000. Danta, Radhanpur and Santalpur talukas each have a population of above 50,000, while Vav taluka has a population of 97,262. Then there is a group of six talukas, namely, Vadgam, Deesa, Kankrej, Deodar, Tharad and Dhanera, each of which has a population ranging between 100,000 to 199,999. Palanpur, which is the largest in population size, has a population of 228,944, and is itself one of the 30 talukas in the State having a population of 200,000 and above. The distribution of the talukas of Banas Kantha according to population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.4

Distribution of talukas of Banas Kantha district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges			
		50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
Banas Kantha	11	3	1	6	1
1	Palanpur	..	..	..	228,944
2	Vadgam	..	..	112,630	..
3	Deesa	..	..	195,443	..
4	Kankrej	..	..	116,468	..
5	Radhanpur	63,572	..	..	..
6	Santalpur	55,652	..	..	..
7	Deodar	..	..	107,179	..
8	Vav	..	97,262	..	..
9	Tharad	..	..	109,058	..
10	Dhanera	..	..	108,432	..
11	Danta	70,743	..	..	..

(4) *Rajkot District*:—Rajkot district ranks fourth among the districts of the State in terms of geographical area and eighth in population size. It measures, 11,203 km²., which is 5.72 per cent of the total geographical area of the State, and has a population of 1,624,072, which accounts for 6.08 per cent of the total State population. The district is comprised of 9 talukas, and four mahals (a mahal is an administrative unit smaller than a taluka), of which the smallest is Lodhika mahal with a population of 29,966 and the largest is Rajkot taluka itself with a population of 392,084. Kotda Sangani mahal with a population of 40,502 falls in the population size range of 30,000 to 49,999 while Jam-Kandorna and Paddhari mahals and Maliya taluka fall in the population range of 50,000 to 74,999. There are six talukas in the population range of 100,000 to 199,999. These are the talukas of Gondal, Jetpur, Dhoraji, Upleta, Wankaner and Jasdan. Lastly, Morvi taluka with a population of 203,521 ranks as the second largest in the district next to Rajkot taluka. The distribution of the talukas and mahals of Rajkot district according to population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.5

Distribution of Talukas of Rajkot district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges				
		20,000 to 29,999	30,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 74,999	100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rajkot	13	1	1	3	6	2
	1 Rajkot	..	..	..	..	392.084

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	Kotda Sangani					
	mahal	..	40,502	..	..	..
3	Gondal	..	..	..	176,463	..
4	Jetpur	..	..	..	126,544	..
5	Dhoraji	..	..	..	119,357	..
6	Upleta	..	..	..	137,793	..
7	Jam-Kandorna	..	..	52,659	..	..
	Mahal					
8	Lodhika Mahal	29,966	..	..	..	..
9	Paddhari Mahal	..	..	51,229	..	..
10	Morvi	..	..	..	..	203,521
11	Maliya	..	..	58,771	..	..
12	Wankaner	..	..	..	103,391	..
13	Jasdan	..	..	..	131,792	..

(5) *Bhavnagar District*:—Bhavnagar is the fifth largest district of the State in terms of geographical area and the tenth largest in terms of population size. It measures 11,155 km². and accounts for 5.69 per cent of the State's total geographical area and has a population of 1,405,285 which is 5.26 per cent of the total State population. Thus, while it is nearly as large as Rajkot district in geographical size, its population is comparatively smaller. It will be seen by comparison with Rajkot that while Bhavnagar is almost the same size as Rajkot in geographical area Rajkot has a slight edge in population size which is out of proportion to the difference in the comparative land area of the two districts.

The district is divided into 11 talukas and 1 mahal, none of which has a population of less than 45,000. Ghoghā mahal is the second smallest administrative unit with a population of 48,976, next to Vallabhipur, which has a

population of 48,416. Two talukas of Gariadhar and Umrala fall in the population size range of 50,000 to 74,999 while three, Sihor, Gadhada and Botad fall in the next higher range of 75,000 to 99,999. There are four talukas in the population size range of 100,000 to 199,999. These are the talukas of Mahuva, Kundla, Talaja and Palitana. Bhavnagar taluka with a population of 298,746 is the largest taluka. The distribution of the talukas of Bhavnagar district by population ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.6

Distribution of talukas of Bhavnagar district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/mahal	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges				
		30,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
Bhavnagar	12	2	2	3	4	1
1	Bhavnagar	..	..	..	..	298,746
2	Ghogha Mahal	48,976	..	..	..	..
3	Talaja	..	..	..	136,906	..
4	Mahuva	..	..	..	196,075	..
5	Kundla	..	..	..	164,388	..
6	Gariadhar	..	69,662	..	..	..
7	Palitana	..	..	..	105,874	..
8	Sihor	..	..	98,412	..	..
9	Umrala	..	54,219	..	..	..
10	Gadhada	..	..	90,367	..	..
11	Botad	..	..	93,244	..	..
12	Vallabhipur	48,416	..	..	..	..

(6) *Junagadh District*:—Junagadh is one of the very few districts where the disparity in ranking according to

geographical size and population size is not extreme. It is the sixth largest district in terms of geographical area and the seventh largest in terms of population size. It measures 10,607 km². and has a population of 1,656,677 thereby accounting for 5.41 per cent of the total geographical area of the State and 6.21 per cent of its total population. The district has 13 talukas and two mahals and thereby ranks first in having the largest number of administrative units. None of these units has a population of less than 45,000. Mendarda mahal with a population of 46,948 is the smallest in population size, while Bhesan mahal with a population of 49,175 is the second smallest. The talukas of Talala, Ranavav and Kutiyana fall in the population size range of 50,000 to 74,999 while those of Malia, Vanthali and Visavadar in the population size range of 75,000 to 99,999. There are six talukas in the next higher population size, i.e., 100,000 to 199,999. These are the talukas of Junagadh, Patan-Veraval, Mangrol, Keshod, Manavadar and Una. Porbandar taluka with a population size of 225,524 ranks first.

The distribution of the talukas of Junagadh district by population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.7

Distribution of talukas of Junagadh district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/mahal	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges				
		30,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Junagadh	15	2	3	3	6	1
	1 Junagadh	..	..	..	193,709	..

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	2 Mendarda mahal	46,948	..	..	..	..
	3 Talala	..	72,743	..	..	..
	4 Patan Veraval	..	..	..	191,308	..
	5 Malia	..	..	87,017	..	..
	6 Mangrol	..	..	..	107,268	..
	7 Keshod	..	..	..	105,273	..
	8 Porbandar	..	..	..	..	225,524
	9 Ranavav	..	60,589	..	..	..
	10 Kutiyana	..	67,981	..	..	..
	11 Manavadar	..	..	..	108,284	..
	12 Vanthali	..	..	81,326	..	..
	13 Bhesan mahal	49,175	..	..	..	..
	14 Visavadar	..	..	90,276	..	..
	15 Una	..	..	..	169,256	..

(7) *Surendranagar District*.—This district ranks seventh in geographical area and seventeenth in population size. It measures 10,488 km². and has a population of 845,454, thereby accounting for 5.35 per cent of the total geographical area of the State and 3.17 per cent of its population. The district consists of nine talukas, none of which has a population less than 50,000. Sayla taluka with a population of 50,545 is the smallest and Lakhtar taluka with 50,905 is the second smallest. Muli and Halvad talukas are the other two talukas in this population range of 50,000 to 74,999. Chotila taluka is the only taluka in the next higher population size range of 75,000 to 99,999. The remaining four talukas fall in the population size range of 100,000 to 199,999. These are the talukas of Wadhwan, Limbdi, Dhrangadhara and Dasada. The distribution of

the talukas according to population size range is tabulated below.

STATEMENT II.8

Distribution of talukas of Surendranagar district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges		
		50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999
Surendranagar	9	4	1	4
	1 Wadhwan . .	..	..	160,750
	2 Limbdi . .	..	..	152,761
	3 Sayla . .	50,545	..	..
	4 Chotila . .	..	77,082	..
	5 Muli . .	57,414	..	..
	6 Halvad . .	71,485	..	..
	7 Dhrangadhra .	..	..	110,739
	8 Dasada . .	..	..	113,765
	9 Lakhtar . .	50,905	..	..

(8) *Bharuch District*:—Bharuch district ranks eighth in geographical area and fourteenth in population size. It measures 9,045 km². and has a population of 1,109,601, thereby accounting for 4.62 per cent of the total geographical area of the State and 4.16 per cent of its population. The district is divided into ten talukas and one mahal, none of which has a population of less than 45,000. Hansot mahal is the smallest administrative unit with a population of 45,231. There are four talukas in the population range of 50,000 to 74,999. These are Vagra, Amod, Dediapada and Sagbara talukas. Two taluka's

namely, Anklesvar and Valia fall in the next higher range of 75,000 to 99,999. Jambusar, Jhagadia and Nandod talukas fall in the population range of 100,000 to 199,999 while the last remaining taluka, Bharuch, has the highest population with 223,537 persons.

The distribution of the talukas of Bharuch district by population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.9

Distribution of talukas of Bharuch district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges				
		30,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
Bharuch	11	1	4	2	3	1
1	Bharuch . .	..	..	..	..	223,537
2	Anklesvar . .	..	..	97,297	..	..
3	Hansot mahal .	45,231	..	..	..	..
4	Vagra . .	..	65,037	..	..	..
5	Jambusar . .	..	..	..	140,355	..
6	Amod . .	..	68,664	..	..	..
7	Jhagadia . .	..	..	..	120,000	..
8	Nandod . .	..	..	..	148,294	..
9	Dediapada . .	..	67,683	..	..	..
10	Sagbara . .	..	52,576	..	..	..
11	Valia . .	..	..	80,927	..	..

(9) *Mahesana District*:—This district is one of the most thickly populated districts of the State. Though

it ranks ninth in geographical area its rank according to population size is third, after Ahmadabad and Kheda districts. It measures 9,027 km²., which is 4.61 per cent of the total geographical area of the State, and has a population of 2,092,468, which is 7.84 per cent of the State's total population. In this respect it offers a good comparison with Bharuch district, which is only 18 km². more than Mahesana in geographical area. Though Bharuch accounts for 4.62 per cent of the total geographical area of the State as against 4.61 per cent in the case of Mahesana, it accommodates only 4.16 per cent of the State's population as compared to 7.84 per cent in the case of Mahesana. Mahesana district consists of 11 talukas, the largest group of five falling in the highest population range of 200,000 and above. It has no taluka having a population of less than 55,000 and, in fact, nine of its talukas have a population of above 160,000. Only one taluka, Harij, is in the population range of 50,000 to 74,999, another in the range of 75,000 to 99,999, and all the remaining nine of above 160,000. The distribution of the talukas by population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.10

Distribution of talukas of Mahesana district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges			
		50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
1	2	3	4	5	6
Mahesana	11	1	1	4	5
	1 Mahesana	..	..	..	246,212

1	2	3	4	5	6
2	Kadi . .	..	..	182,674	..
3	Chanasma .	..	..	174,284	..
4	Sami . .	..	97,858	..	..
5	Harij . .	55,161	..	..	..
6	Patan . .	..	..	..	254,117
7	Sidhpur . .	..	..	..	234,863
8	Kheralu . .	..	..	..	205,821
9	Visnagar .	..	..	160,729	..
10	Vijapur . .	..	..	..	308,216
11	Kalol . .	..	..	172,533	..

(10) *Panch Mahals District*:—Like Mahesana, Panch Mahals is another of the more densely populated districts. While it ranks tenth in geographical area its rank according to population size is fifth. With an area of 8,866 km². it takes up 4.53 per cent of the total area of the State. It has a population of 1,848,804, which is 6.93 per cent of the total population of the State. The district comprises of ten talukas and one mahal. The distribution of the administrative units according to population size ranges in the case of Panch Mahals is even more impressive than in the case of Mahesana. Only Jambughoda mahal, with a population of 21,513 falls in the lowest population size range of 20,000 to 29,999. All the remaining administrative units have a population exceeding 100,000. Of these, the talukas of Kalol, Halol, Shehera, Lunavada, Jhalod and Limkheda are in the population size range of 100,000 to 199,999. The remaining four talukas Godhra, Santrampur, Dohad and Devgad Baria are in the highest population size range of 200,000 and above. Godhra taluka with a population of 269,357 ranks first in population

size followed by Santrampur, Dohad, Devgad Baria and Lunavada in that order. The distribution of the talukas by population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.11

Distribution of talukas of Panch Mahals district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges		
		20,000 to 29,999	100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
Panch Mahals	11	1	6	4
1 Godhra	• •	..	..	269,357
2 Kalol	• • •	..	118,273	..
3 Halol	• • •	..	115,674	..
4 Shehera	• •	..	113,259	..
5 Lunavada	• •	..	186,251	..
6 Santrampur	• •	..	..	247,300
7 Jhalod	• • •	..	158,860	..
8 Dohad	• • •	..	..	235,928
9 Limkheda	• •	..	163,016	..
10 Devgad Baria	•	..	..	219,373
11 Jambughoda mahal		21,513	..	..

(11) *Ahmadabad District*:—Like Kutch and Kheda districts, Ahmadabad district also offers a unique example of the great range of disparity between geographical area and population size that some of the districts of the State show. While this district takes up only 4.44 per cent

of the total geographical area of the State, thus ranking the district eleventh in geographical size, it accommodates 10.90 per cent of its population, which ranks the district first in population size. The district measures 8,707 km². and has a population of 2,910,307. Much of the heavy concentration of the population is accounted for by the fact of Ahmadabad City's being one of the most important centres of industry, trade and commerce in Western India. It has since long been one of the leading textile centres of the country. The formation of a separate Gujarat State in 1960 and the choice of Ahmadabad City as its capital until the formation of the new capital at Gandhinagar gave a considerable impetus to the growth of the population of Ahmadabad. The vast employment opportunities offered by the city's numerous textile mills and by its budding trading, commercial and industrial establishments, and by the rapid growth of urban centres neighbouring Ahmadabad City and in other parts of the district have drawn substantial migrant population to this district.

The district consists of seven talukas and is in that sense the smallest district of the State, if we exclude the single-taluka districts of Gandhinagar and The Dangs. All the talukas of the district are thickly populated, none of them having a population of less than 110,000. The four talukas of Daskroi, Dhandhuka, Sanand and Dehgam fall in the population size range of 100,000 to 199,999 while the remaining three talukas of Ahmadabad City, Dholka and Viramgam in the population size range of 200,000 and

above. The distribution of the talukas by population is as follows:

STATEMENT II. 12

Distribution of talukas of Ahmadabad district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges	
		100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
Ahmadabad	7	4	3
	1 Ahmadabad City	..	1,803,085
	2 Daskroi	197,622	..
	3 Dholka	..	226,577
	4 Dhandhuka	181,166	..
	5 Sanand	113,287	..
	6 Viramgam	..	237,832
	7 Dehgam	150,738	..

(12) *Vadodara District*:—This district is the State's twelfth largest district in geographical area and the fourth largest in population size. It measures 7,788 km². and has a population of 1,980,065. It thus accounts for 3.97 per cent of the total geographical area of the State and 7.42 per cent of its total population. The district consists of eleven talukas and one mahal, none of these administrative units having a population of less than 43,000. Tilakwada mahal is the smallest administrative unit in population size and has a population of 43,542. Sinor and Nasvadi talukas are next in size, the former with a population of 56,656

and the latter of 72,661. Vaghodia taluka is the only unit in the population range of 75,000 to 99,999 and has an actual population of 89,269. The bulk of the talukas, seven in number, (Karjan, Padra, Savli, Dabhoi, Sankheda, Jabugam and Chhota Udaipur) fall in the population size range of 100,000 to 199,999, while the last taluka, Vadodara taluka, has the highest population, 665,306. The break-up of the talukas by population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.13

Distribution of talukas of Vadodara district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges				
		30,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
Vadodara	12	1	2	1	7	1
1	Vadodara	..	..	..	..	665,306
2	Karjan	..	..	..	114,782	..
3	Padra	..	..	..	171,308	..
4	Savli	..	..	..	161,022	..
5	Vaghodia	..	..	89,269	..	..
6	Dabhoi	..	..	..	145,160	..
7	Sankheda	..	..	..	133,676	..
8	Jabugam	..	..	..	137,756	..
9	Chhota Udaipur	..	..	..	188,927	..
10	Nasvadi	..	72,661	..	..	..
11	Tilkwada mahal	43,542	..	..	..	..
12	Sinor	..	56,656	..	..	..

(13) *Surat District*.—Along with Bharuch, Valsad and The Dangs, Surat district forms one of the districts of the southern Gujarat region. Measuring 7,745 km². and accounting 3.95 per cent of the total geographical area of the State the district ranks thirteenth in size. However, with a population of 1,786,924, which accounts for 6.69 per cent of the total State population, its rank according to population size is sixth. The district is comprised of eleven talukas and two mahals. Uchhal taluka, with a population of 44,940, is the least thickly populated while Nizar taluka and Valod and Palsana mahals fall in the population range of 50,000 to 74,999. Olpad, Kamrej and Mahuva talukas are in the next higher range of 75,000 to 99,999. Five talukas fall in the population range of 100,000 to 199,999. These are the talukas of Mangrol, Mandvi, Songadh, Vyara and Bardoli. Choarsi taluka with a population of 645,827 is the largest. The break-up of the talukas by population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.14

Distribution of talukas of Surat district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/mahal	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges				
		30,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Surat	13	1	3	3	5	1
	1 Chorasi . .	..	..	..	..	645,827
	2 Olpad . .	..	..	98,407	..	..

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	3 Kamrej . .	..	..	81,777	..	..
	4 Mangrol . .	..	..	..	128,904	..
	5 Mandvi . .	..	..	..	119,168	..
	6 Songadh . .	..	..	..	135,095	..
	7 Uchhal . .	44,940	..	..	..	..
	8 Nizar . .	..	71,932	..	..	..
	9 Vyara . .	..	..	..	153,536	..
	10 Valod mahal . .	..	51,999	..	..	..
	11 Bardoli . .	..	..	..	120,120	..
	12 Mahuva . .	..	..	82,049	..	..
	13 Palsana mahal . .	..	53,170	..	..	..

(14) *Sabar Kantha District*:—Sabar Kantha district is the fourteenth largest in terms of geographical area and the twelfth largest in population size. It is one of the districts of northern Gujarat and is comprised of eight talukas and two mahals. The district measures 7,390 km². and has a population of 1,187,637. It thus accounts for 3.77 per cent of the total geographical area of the State and 4.45 per cent of its total population. Vijaynagar mahal, with a population of 43,378, is the smallest unit in terms of population size. Meghraj taluka and Malpur mahal fall in the next higher range and Khed Brahma taluka in the range of 75,000 to 99,999. However, majority of the talukas are in the population range of 100,000 to 199,999. Of these, the largest is Idar taluka, followed by Prantij, Modasa, Himatnagar, Bayad and Bhiloda talukas in that order. None of the talukas in this district are in the highest population size range of 200,000 and above.

The distribution of the talukas and mahals of Sabar Kantha district according to population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.15

Distribution of talukas of Sabar Kantha district by population size ranges

Name of District	Name of taluka/ mahal	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges			
		30,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999
Sabar	10	1	2	1	6
Kantha	1 Himatnagar .	..	..	..	143,649
	2 Prantij . .	..	..	..	182,949
	3 Idar . .	..	..	..	194,364
	4 Khed-Brahma .	..	..	98,559	..
	5 Vijaynagar mahal	43,378	..	..	..
	6 Bhiloda . .	..	..	..	114,190
	7 Meghraj . .	..	69,095	..	..
	8 Modasa . .	..	..	..	153,409
	9 Malpur mahal	..	50,527	..	..
	10 Bayad . .	..	..	..	137,517

(15) *Kheda District*:—Kheda district is the second most populous district of the State. Next only to Kutch, it offers the most extreme example of the great disparity between area and population. With an area of 7,194 km², it accounts for only 3.67 per cent of the total geographical area of the State and ranks fifteenth in geographical size. But with a population of 2,451,387, which is 9.18 per cent of the total State population it ranks

second in population size next to Ahmadabad and just ahead of Mahesana. The district consists of ten talukas, of which four are in the population range of 100,000 to 199,999 and the remaining six in the highest population range of 200,000 and above. None of its units has a population of less than 130,000. Anand taluka with a population of 399,076 ranks first in population size followed by Nadiad, Borsad, Kapadvanj, Petlad and Cambay talukas in that order. The distribution of the talukas according to population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.16

Distribution of talukas of Kheda district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges	
		100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
1	2	3	4
Kheda	10	4	6
	1 Mehmedabad	173,152	..
	2 Nadiad	..	376,627
	3 Anand	..	399,076
	4 Petlad	..	256,693
	5 Borsad	..	301,054
	6 Cambay	..	221,139
	7 Matar	132,084	..
	8 Kapadvanj	..	269,764
	9 Balasinor	131,513	..
	10 Thasra	190,285	..

(16) *Amreli District*:—Amreli is the only district of the State whose ranking both according to geographical area and population size remains the same. Its rank under both heads is sixteenth. The district measures 6,760 km². and has a population of 848,730. It thus accounts for 3.45 per cent of the total geographical area of the State and 3.18 per cent of its total population. The district consists of seven talukas and three mahals. Lilia, Jafrabad and Khambha mahals all fall in the population range of 30,000 to 49,999 but none of these has a population of less than 35,000. Babra taluka, with a population of 72,383 falls in the next higher category while Dhari and Lathi talukas in the population size range of 75,000 to 99,999. The remaining four talukas, Amreli, Rajula, Kodinar and Kunkavav Vadia are all grouped together in the population size range of 100,000 to 199,999. The distribution of these units according to population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.17

Distribution of talukas of Amreli district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges			
		30,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 74,999	75,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 199,999
1	2	3	4	5	6
Amreli	10	3	1	2	4
	1 Amreli . .	..	..	..	140,496
	2 Dhari . .	..	..	99,935	..

1	2	3	4	5	6
	3 Khambha mahal	35,711	..	..	..
	4 Rajula	..	..	..	101,093
	5 Jafrabad mahal	42,039	..	..	..
	6 Kodinar	..	..	..	105,759
	7 Kunka vav Vadia	..	..	..	120,617
	8 Babra	..	72,383	..	..
	9 Lathi	..	..	82,694	..
	10 Lilia mahal	48,003	..	..	..

(17) *Valsad District*:—Valsad is the smallest district of the State after Gandhinagar and The Dangs. Its ranking according to geographical area is seventeenth and that according to population size is ninth. It measures 5,238 km². and accounts for 2.67 per cent of the State's total geographical area and, with a population of 1,428,742 for 5.35 per cent of its population. The district has eight talukas, none of them having a population of less than 115,000. The majority of the talukas, namely, Pardi, Umbergaon, Gandeви, Chikhli, Bansda and Dharampur fall in the population size range of 100,000 to 199,999. The remaining two talukas, Valsad and Navsari, fall in the highest population size range of 200,000 and above. Navsari, with a population of 276,425, is the largest in population size followed by Valsad, Dharampur, Chikhli,

Pardi, Gandevi, Bansda and Umbergaon in that order. The distribution of the talukas by population size ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.18

Distribution of talukas of Valsad district by population size ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Distribution of talukas by population size ranges	
		100,000 to 199,999	200,000 and above
1	2	3	4
Valsad	8	6	2
	1 Valsad	..	223,084
	2 Pardi	162,465	..
	3 Umbergaon	116,866	..
	4 Gandevi	159,483	..
	5 Navsari	..	276,425
	6 Chikhli	176,089	..
	7 Bansda	120,619	..
	8 Dharampur	193,711	..

(18) *The Dangs District*:—The Dangs district is the second smallest district of the State in geographical area and the smallest in population size. It is a single-taluka district measuring 1,683 km². and accounts for 0.86 per cent of the total geographical area of the State. It has a population of 94,185, which is 0.35 per cent of the total population of the State. It thus falls in the fourth highest population size range of 75,000 to 99,999.

(19) *Gandhinagar District*:—Gandhinagar is a comparatively new district formed around the State's new capital, and named after it. Like The Dangs, it is a single-taluka district. With an area of 649 km², it is the smallest district in the State, though it ranks higher than The Dangs in population size. It has a population of 200,642 and thus falls in the highest population size range of 200,000 and above. It accounts for 0.33 per cent of the total geographical area of the State and 0.75 per cent of its total population.

Thus we see that the 184 talukas and mahals in the 19 districts of the State divide themselves into population size ranges where more than 50% of the talukas (110) have a population of above 100,000. Of the remaining 74, the largest number, 31, are in the population size range of 50,000 to 74,999 and the next largest, 27 talukas, in the population size range of 75,000 to 99,999. There are only 16 talukas where the population is less than 50,000. Of these 16, only three are in the population size range of 20,000 to 29,999 while the remaining 13 are in the population size range of 30,000 to 49,999. Jabughoda mahal in Panch Mahals district is the smallest administrative unit with a population of 21,513. The other two units with a population of less than 30,000 are Lakhpat taluka in Kutch district and Lodhika mahal in Rajkot district. At the other end of the scale, the Ahmadabad city taluka with a population of 1,803,085 is the largest single taluka in the State, followed by Vadodara taluka (665,306), Chorasi taluka in Surat district (645,827), Anand taluka in Kheda district (399,076), Rajkot taluka in Rajkot district (392,084) and Nadiad taluka, also in Kheda district (376,627). We can see from the above that by and large the distribution

of the population of the State at the Taluka level is satisfactorily high and the number of talukas where the population is less than 50,000 is comparatively small.

Density of the population

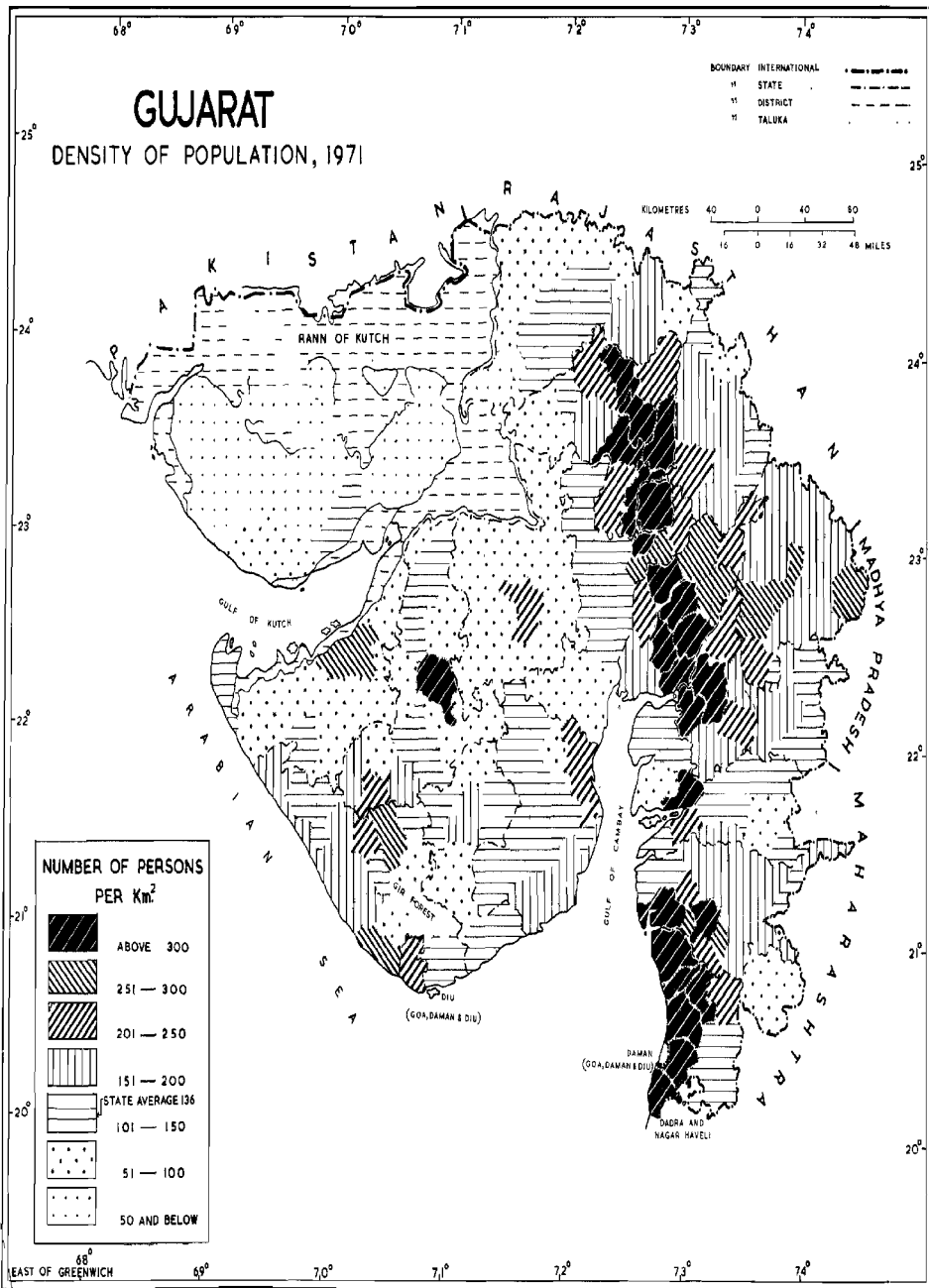
The one conclusion that the preceding discussion should help in suggesting is that the pattern of our distribution over the various districts and talukas is patchy and there is considerable difference in the pattern of our distribution over the various places. We have briefly touched upon the subject of the density of the population not only of our own State but also that of a few other States of comparable size and a few other nations. We have seen in greater detail how, for example, Kutch district, though it is the largest district in the State and accounts for nearly a quarter of the State's geographical area, is nevertheless the fifth smallest of the State's 19 districts in population size. Similarly, for example, Jamnagar is the second largest district in land area but the seventh smallest in population size. At the other end of the scale, though Ahmadabad district is the eleventh largest in land area it is the largest in population size. More strikingly, Kheda district, which is the fifteenth largest in land area is nonetheless second largest in population size. All this would seem to justify a detailed look at the density of the population in the various districts of the State.

We have already seen that the word density in relation to the distribution of the population means the number of persons that would inhabit 1 km². of area if the entire population of a given area were to be evenly distributed over that area. This is of course purely theoretical

since in actual practice it is never possible to attain this even distribution. Not only do geographical factors stand in the way of doing so but social and economic reasons also determine the places where people choose to live and work.

The density of the population at the all India level is 178 persons per km². This, as already explained, means that, given the geographical area of our country and its population, there would be 178 persons per square kilometer if the given population were to be evenly distributed over the given geographical area. The State population achieves a level which is less than this and stands at 136 persons per km². We have already seen that the density in the case of the other States comparable in geographical size with Gujarat is considerably higher than the density obtaining in our own State. The density of the population of Bihar is 324, that of Mysore is 153 and that of Orissa 141. All these States are smaller in area than Gujarat and all of them, except Orissa, have a higher population than our own. There are States and Union Territories where the density is even higher. In Kerala, for example, it is as high as 549; in Tamil Nadu it is 317; in Uttar Pradesh 300; in West Bengal 504 and in the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands it is 994. The Union Territories of Chandigarh and Delhi are not good examples to take for the purpose of comparison because these are single-unit metropolitan areas and the factors that govern the density of the population at the State level as a whole do not obtain here. But just to gain some idea as to the heights that density can reach it may be mentioned that the density of the population in Delhi territory is 2,738 persons per km², and that of the Chandigarh population is 2,257.

Compared to these figures it can be seen that the density of the population in Gujarat is not as high as it could well be. What this means is that, given the land area of the State, the population living in it is still sufficiently low so as not to overcrowd the land and environment. Lest we make too much of this it would be good to remind ourselves that by western standards, or even by international standards we are already an overcrowded State. Take, for example, the case of Argentina. The population of that country is 23,364,431 and the area is, 2,776,889 km². As compared to Gujarat the area of this country is thirteen times more than that of Gujarat while the population is 12.48 per cent less than Gujarat's. It naturally follows therefore that the density of the population of that country is not very high and it should surprise no one to learn that it is, in fact, as low as 8 persons to the square kilometre. Similarly take the case of Mexico or Poland. Mexico has vast land area which is nearly ten times larger than that of Gujarat. Its population is not even double than that of Gujarat being only 81.20 per cent higher than Gujarat. The density in this country is as low as 25 persons per km². Similarly Poland has an area of 312,677 km². and has a population of only 325.9 lakhs which gives a density of only 105 persons per km². On the other hand, its comparison with Japan would give a different picture. Japan has a land area of 36,988 km². and a population of 103,703,552 persons. Thus it is 88.83 per cent larger than Gujarat in land area but its population is higher than our own population by 288.44 per cent. Roughly speaking the area of Japan is nearly double of Gujarat whereas its population is nearly four times. Thus the density of this country is significantly



Based upon Survey of India map with the permission of the surveyor General of India
 The territorial waters of India extend into the sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles
 measured from the appropriate base line.

higher than that of Gujarat being 280 persons per km². Similarly developed countries like Germany and United Kingdom also have higher density. Density of German Democratic Republic was 240 persons per km². and that of United Kingdom was of 228 persons per km². in 1970. In contrast to this the density of France was only 93 persons per km². We can thus conclude our comparison of Gujarat with developed nations like England, Germany and Japan by finding that we have less number of persons per km². than them. Any further comparison with Argentina, Poland, Mexico and France shows that we have larger number of persons per km². If we compare ourselves with developed countries like United Kingdom, Germany and Japan we find that our density is very low. But if we compare ourselves with developing countries like Afghanistan, Argentina, etc., we find that we are much better.

Taking the subject a stage further it may be useful to examine the density of the population in our various districts. This is illustrated by the Map alongside. In the light of what we have already discussed so far it will not be difficult to understand that the higher the population and the lower the land area available for it, the higher will be the density of that population in relation to that area. Therefore, the converse is also true; viz., that the higher the land area and the lower the population living in that particular land area the lower will be the density of the population of that area. This being so it should not be surprising that the density of the population in Kutch district, which has the highest land area among the districts of the State but only the fifth lowest population, the density of the population is as low as 19 persons per km². In

The Dangs the density is 56 persons per km²., and in Jamnagar it is 79. The density of the population in Surendrangar district, which ranks seventh in land area but seventeenth in population size, is 81 persons per km². Five districts, namely, Banas Kantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Amreli and Rajkot fall in the density range from 100 to 150. Only Junagadh, which has a density of 156, and Sabar Kantha with a density of 161, are in the density range of 150 to 200. Panch Mahals, Surat and Mahesana fall in the next higher range of 200 to 250 while only Vadodara with 254 and Valsad with 273 are in the density range of 250 to 300. The density of the population is highest in Kheda, Ahmadabad and Gandhinagar districts. The districts of the State are listed below according to rank by geographical size, and showing rank by population size and the density of the population.

STATEMENT II.19

Districts arranged by geographical size in descending order with showing population size ranking and density

Name of district	Area in km ² .	Population	Rank according to population	Density per km ² .
1	2	3	4	5
Kutch . . .	45,612.0	849,769	15	19
Jamnagar . .	14,125.0	1,111,343	13	79
Banas Kantha . .	12,702.0	1,265,383	11	100
Rajkot . . .	11,203.0	1,624,072	8	145
Bhavnagar . .	11,155.0	1,405,285	10	126
Junagadh . . .	10,607.0	1,656,677	7	156

1	2	3	4	5
Surendranagar .	10,488·0	845,454	17	81
Bharuch . . .	9,045·0	1,109,601	14	123
Mahesana . . .	9,027·0	2,092,468	3	232
Panch Mahals . .	8,866·0	1,848,804	5	209
Ahmadabad . . .	8,707·0	2,910,307	1	334
Vadodara . . .	7,788·0	1,980,065	4	254
Surat	7,745·0	1,786,924	6	231
Sabar Kantha . .	7,390·0	1,187,637	12	161
Kheda	7,194·0	2,451,387	2	341
Amreli	6,760·0	848,730	16	126
Valsad	5,238·0	1,428,742	9	273
The Dangs	1,683·0	94,185	19	56
Gandhinagar . . .	649·0	200,642	18	309

From these facts the question may well arise as to the reason why some districts are more thickly populated than others and whether there are any social or economic or geographical reasons to account for the variation in the density of the population in the various districts of the State. That these factors invariably go a long way in determining the density of the population in any area is well-known and it will be not denied that geographical factors and social and economic reasons do have a lot to do with the pattern of density of the population in the various districts. Exactly what all the reasons are in respect of each of the districts would be difficult to say without a separate detailed inquiry on that subject alone. We do not have all the facts before us to justify any definite conclusion as to the reasons which might explain the variations in density but some reasons that are generally well-known at least in the case of some of the districts could be usefully stated.

Let us take Kutch district first. This is our largest district in terms of geographical area and yet has one of the lowest populations living in it. There are a number of reasons which account for this fact. For one thing, the major portion of the district is nothing more than swampy marshes and desert and semi-desert land which offer no scope either for human habitation or meaningful economic activity. The bulk of the area shown in the maps as the Rann of Kutch is, therefore, entirely uninhabited for all practical purposes. Then there is the question of the historical isolation of the district from the rest of the peninsula. The area has been traditionally cut-off from the land mass lying behind it on one side and faces the ocean on the other. The distances are long, the intervening spaces uninhabitable, and the communications have been poor until recent times. The land itself has been infertile and low on resources. It is no wonder therefore that not only do few outsiders decide to come into Kutch in any significant numbers but also that its own sons have gone out in large numbers in search for better places to earn their living.

Jamnagar where the density of the population is 79 persons per km². is similarly afflicted, though by a somewhat different set of factors. This district also faces the open sea on one side and the hinter land on which it can directly depend or which it can serve with its given set of resources and services is a limited one. A good deal of the land area in this district is also taken up by sandy wastes and salt flats particularly along the coastal region.

A similar fate afflicts Banas Kantha district where the problem is one of low resources and a backward population, coupled with large tracts of the land being taken up by desert and semi-desert soils and hills and hillocks. The tendency of large areas of Surendranagar being water-logged or being rendered poor by sub-soil salinity is well-known. Such portions of the land as are free from salinity or sandy conditions are few and far between. For the rest the land holds too little promise and has defeated numerous efforts at improvement. Kheda district on the other hand, is the most densely populated district in the State and has historically been one of the most advanced areas of the State both socially and economically. It is populated by a forward looking people full of push and initiative who had a good deal of capital-thanks to the richness of the land, and were willing to risk investment in more and more new ventures. Ahmadabad district, which ranks next to Kheda, occupies second rank on the density ladder mainly due to the contribution of Ahmadabad City and its suburbs. The city itself is one of the largest in India and has for long been the centre of a major concentration of population owing to the opportunity that its innumerable textile mills and other trading, commercial and industrial establishments offer. The high place of Gandhinagar on the density map may well be an artificial phenomenon having more to do with the very heavy concentration of population in the capital town of Gandhinagar where thousands of civil servants and labourers live rather than being a true reflection of the quality of habitation in the district as a whole.

Density of the population in the Talukas

It goes without saying that the density of the population in the talukas will by and large reflect the overall pattern noticed in the case of the district as a whole.

Kutch.—In none of the talukas of Kutch district is the density anywhere close to the State average of 136. The density of the population in the district as a whole is 19. Anjar taluka with a density of 109 persons per km². is the most densely populated, followed by Mandvi with 81 and Mundra with 64. All the remaining talukas registered a density of less than 50 persons per km². The density of the population of Bhuj taluka is 37, that of Abdasa is 31, 11 in the case of Lakhpat, 47 in Nakhatrana, 33 in Rapar and 40 in Bhachau.

Banas Kantha.—The district level density in the case of Banas Kantha is 100 persons per km². At the taluka level the figure rises above 100 only in the case of six out of eleven talukas in the district. It is higher than the State average in the case of only three talukas, namely, Kankrej (142), Palanpur (156) and Vadgam (199). The figure for Deesa, Radhanpur and Deodar is 132, 107 and 106 respectively. In all other cases the density is less than 100 persons per km². It is 80 in the case of Tharad, 83 in Danta and 91 in Dhanera. In the case of Vav and Santalpur talukas the density of population is less than even 60. Vav has a density of 57 persons and Santalpur of 41 persons per km².

Jamnagar.—The district level density in Jamnagar is 79 persons per km². In eight talukas out of the ten of which the district is comprised the density is equal to or

more than the district average. Kalyanpur with 65 and Lalpur with 67 are below the district average. Dhrol taluka with 79 is equal to the district level. Kalavad with 82, Jodiya with 86, Jamjodhpur with 90 and Khambhalia with 95 fall in the next higher range. Bhanvad taluka has a density of 104 persons per km². and Okhamandal has 107 persons per km². The highest density is registered in Jamnagar taluka which has a density of 294 persons per km².

Rajkot:—The district level density of the population in Rajkot district is 145 persons per km². Five talukas in the district rise above this level, with Gondal taluka having a density of 148, Upleta of 174, Jetpur of 186, Dhoraji of 247 and Rajkot, the most densely populated, of 371. Morvi taluka is just below the district average and has a density of 120. The remaining three talukas and four mahals have a density of less than 100. Maliya with 76, Paddhari with 79 and Lodhika with 80 fall in the range of 75 to 80. The remaining two talukas and two mahals are in the range of 90 to 100. Kotda Sangani mahal has a density of 91 and Jamkandorna mahal and Wankaner taluka both of 93. The density of the population in Jasdan taluka is 99.

Bhavnagar:—The district level average for Bhavnagar district is 126. The bulk of its eleven talukas and one mahal are in the density range of 101 to 150, only two talukas, Talaja and Mahuva, falling in the higher range of 151 to 200 and Bhavnagar taluka alone rising to the next higher range of 201 to 300. The density of Bhavnagar taluka is 204 while that of Talaja and Mahuva 157 and 161 respectively. Vallabhipur with 82 persons per km². is the

least densely populated. Of the remaining talukas in the range of 101 to 150 Gadhada, with a density of 101, is the least thickly populated. Ghogha mahal ranks higher with 112, followed by Botad with 124. The talukas of Umralla, Kundla and Sihor are quite close in density, that in Umralla being 133, that in Kundla being 136 and that in Sihor being 137. The density of the population in both Gariadhar and Palitana talukas is 144.

Junagadh.—The density of the population at the district level in Junagadh is 156. Of the 13 talukas and 2 mahals in the district, eight talukas rise above the district level average. Two of the remaining seven talukas and mahals are in the range of 51 to 100 and the remaining five in the range of 101 to 150. Junagadh taluka is the most densely populated, closely followed by Patan-Veraval taluka and Vanthali taluka all falling in the density range above 200. The distribution of the talukas by density ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.20

Distribution of talukas of Junagadh district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Persons per km ² .			
		51 to 100	101 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 300
1	2	3	4	5	6
Junagadh	15	2	5	5	3
	1 Junagadh	..	..	..	286
	2 Mendarda mahal	..	129	..	..
	3 Talala	76	..	..	..

1	2	3	4	5	6
4	Patan-Veraval .	..	..	..	278
5	Malia . .	..	..	161	..
6	Mangrol .	..	..	189	..
7	Keshod .	..	..	187	..
8	Porbandar .	..	..	198	..
9	Ranavav .	..	103	..	..
10	Kutiyana .	..	120	..	..
11	Manavadar .	..	..	183	..
12	Vanth ali .	..	..	..	207
13	Bhesan mahal . .	..	112	..	..
14	Visavadar .	100	..	..	..
15	Una . .	..	108	..	..

Surendranagar.—Surendranagar district is one of the least densely populated districts of the State. The district level average is 81 and only three talukas show a density of 81 or more. The rest are all below 81. Eight of the nine talukas in the district fall in the density range of 51 to 100 while one in the range of 201 to 300. The distribution of the talukas by density ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.21

Distribution of talukas of Surendranagar district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Persons per km ² .	
		51 to 100	201 to 300
1	2	3	4
Surendranagar	9	8	1
	1 Wadhwan	..	202
	2 Limbdi	89	..

1	2	3	4
	3 Sayla	52	..
	4 Chotila	73	..
	5 Muli	61	..
	6 Halvad	58	..
	7 Dhrangadhra	81	..
	8 Dasada	70	..
	9 Lakhtar	69	..

Bharuch.—The district level average for Bharuch is 123. There are eight talukas in the district which returned a density figure higher than the district average. The remaining three are lower than the district average. The distribution of the administrative units by density ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.22

Distribution of talukas of Bharuch district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Persons per km ² .				
		51 to 100	101 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 300	301 to 400
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bharuch	11	2	6	1	1	1
	1 Bharuch .	..	..	..	..	336
	2 Anklesvar .	..	..	..	235	..
	3 Hansot mahal . .	..	113	..	..	..
	4 Vagra . .	74	..	..	..	..
	5 Jambusar .	..	128	..	..	..
	6 Amod . .	..	148	..	..	..

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	7 Jhagadia . .	..	148	..	..	..
	8 Nandod . .	..	131	..	..	..
	9 Dediapada .	66	..	..	..	..
	10 Sagbara . .	..	131	..	..	..
	11 Valia . .	..	..	157	..	..

Mahesana.—Mahesana district is among densely populated districts of the State. The district level average is 232. More than 50% of the talukas in the district show a density higher than the district level average. The lowest density is recorded in Sami taluka while in Kalol and Sidhpur, both industrial centres, it is as high as 354 and 350 respectively. The distribution of the talukas by density ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.23

Distribution of talukas of Mahesana district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Persons per km ² .				
		51 to 100	101 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 300	301 to 400
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mahesana	11	1	1	1	3	5
	1 Mahesana . .	..	..	..	..	311
	2 Kadi . .	..	..	..	220	..
	3 Chanasma . .	..	..	197	..	..
	4 Sami . .	65	..	..	..	..
	5 Harij . .	..	136	..	..	..
	6 Patān . .	..	..	..	243	..
	7 Sidhpur . .	..	..	..	..	350

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8 Kheralu . .	..	..	..	216	..
	9 Visnagar . .	..	..	..	..	329
	10 Vijapur . .	..	..	..	..	328
	11 Kalol . .	..	..	..	..	354

Panch Mahals:—The district level average for Panch Mahals district is 209 persons per km². The least densely populated is Jambughoda mahal and the most thickly populated is Kalol taluka followed by Dohad, Godhra and Halol in that order. It may be mentioned that Godhra has considerable importance as the district headquarters while Dohad is the centre of a large railway establishment and Kalol and Halol rank among the more progressive talukas of the district. The density in the case of Jambughoda is low because of its extensive forest areas as well as mountainous and ravine tracts. The detailed break-up of the talukas by density ranges is tabulated below.

STATEMENT II.24

Distribution of talukas of Panch Mahals district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/mahal	Persons per km ²		
		101 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 300
1	2	3	4	5
Panch Mahals	11	1	6	4
	1 Godhra	..	..	264
	2 Kalol	..	..	297
	3 Halol	..	..	223
	4 Shehera	..	195	..
	5 Lunavada	..	197	..

1	2	3	4	5
6 Santrampur	. . .	..	182	..
7 Jhalod	. . .	..	199	..
8 Dohad	. . .	..	..	270
9 Limkheda	. . .	..	153	..
10 Devgad Baria	. . .	..	192	..
11 Jambughoda mahal	. . .	147	..	..

Ahmadabad:—After Kheda district which ranks first, this district is the next most densely populated among the districts of Gujarat. We have already mentioned that the rank of Ahmadabad as the second most densely populated district in the State may mislead us into certain wrong presumptions. We have already seen that its second rank is due mainly to the contribution of Ahmadabad City and its suburbs and some of the other more advanced urban centres in the district. For the rest the pattern of distribution of the population and its density over the different talukas is not as high as the ranking of Ahmadabad district as a whole may lead us into believing. This is amply borne out by the following break-up of the talukawise density of the population in the district:

STATEMENT II.25

Distribution of talukas of Ahmadabad district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Persons per km ² .			
		51 to 100	101 to 150	201 to 300	5,000 and above
1	2	3	4	5	6
Ahmadabad	7	1	3	2	1
	1 Ahmadabad City	..	..	..	6,289

1	2	3	4	5	6
	2 Daskroi .	..	..	283	..
	3 Dholka .	..	131	..	..
	4 Dhandhuka .	67	..	..	..
	5 Sanand .	..	142	..	..
	6 Viramgam .	..	139	..	..
	7 Dehgam .	..	..	243	..

Vadodara.—A good deal of what has been said in respect of Ahmadabad district is also true in the case of Vadodara district, though not to the same degree. But in the case of this district also the contribution made by the population of Vadodara City and Vadodara taluka goes a long way in pushing up the ranking of the district on the density ladder. It will be seen from the table below that there is a considerable gap between the density of Vadodara taluka and that of Padra taluka which is the next highest and that of the six talukas falling in the density range of 151 to 200.

STATEMENT II.26

Distribution of talukas of Vadodara district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Persons per km ² .				
		101 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 300	301 to 400	501 to 1,000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Vadodara	12	2	6	2	1	1
	1 Vadodara .	..	..	..	..	993
	2 Karjan .	..	191	..	..	..
	3 Padra .	..	..	..	320	..

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	4 Savli . .	..	..	203	..	..
	5 Vaghodia .	..	158	..	..	..
	6 Dabhoi . .	..	..	229	..	..
	7 Sankheda .	..	185	..	..	..
	8 Jabugam .	..	172	..	..	..
	9 Chhota Udaipur	137	..	..	..	..
	10 Nasvadi . .	136	..	..	..	..
	11 Tilakwada mahal . .	..	178	..	..	..
	12 Sinor . .	..	194	..	..	..

Surat.—The same holds true of Surat district also as will be seen from the following break-up of the talukas of the district by density ranges.

STATEMENT II.27

Distribution of talukas of Surat district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Persons per km. ²				
		101 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 300	301 to 400	1,001 to 2,000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Surat	13	2	5	4	1	1
	1 Chorasi . .	..	..	..	..	1,108
	2 Olpad . .	143	..	..	..	..
	3 Kamrej . .	..	..	216	..	..
	4 Mangrol .	..	165	..	..	..
	5 Mandvi . .	..	163	..	..	..
	6 Songadh .	..	158	..	..	..
	7 Uchhal . .	139	..	..	..	..

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Nizar	.	..	180	..	..	..
9 Vyara	.	..	189	..	..	..
10 Valod mahal	.	..	..	257	..	..
11 Bardoli	.	..	..	..	317	..
12 Mahuva	.	..	..	232	..	..
13 Palsana mahal	.	..	..	265	..	..

Sabar Kantha.—The district level average for Sabar Kantha district is 161 persons per km². There are five talukas in the district which rise above this range whereas rest are all below the district average. Vijaynagar mahal with 95 persons per km². is the least densely populated. The distribution of the talukas by density ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.28

Distribution of talukas of Sabar Kantha district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Persons per km. ²			
		51 to 100	101 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 300
1	2	3	4	5	6
Sabar Kantha	10	1	3	5	1
1 Himatnagar	.	..	..	186	..
2 Prantij	.	..	..	..	222
3 Idar	.	..	..	171	..
4 Khed Brahma	.	..	116	..	..
5 Vijaynagar mahal	.	95	..	..	..
6 Bhiloda	.	..	..	158	..
7 Meghraj	.	..	127	..	..

1	2	3	4	5	6
	8 Modasa . .	..	..	177	..
	9 Malpur mahal . .	..	137	..	..
	10 Bayad . .	..	..	187	..

Kheda.—Kheda district is the most densely populated of the 19 districts of the State. There is nothing artificial about the district level average of 341 and the density pattern over the bulk of the district is fairly uniform. Nadiad, Anand and Petlad talukas are most densely populated followed by Borsad and Mehmedabad talukas respectively. All the remaining five talukas have a density of below 300 persons per km². The distribution of the talukas of Kheda district by density ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.29

Distribution of talukas of Kheda District by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Persons per km. ²				
		151 to 200	201 to 300	301 to 400	401 to 500	501 to 1,000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Kheda	10	1	4	1	1	3
	1 Mehmedabad .	..	..	348	..	..
	2 Nadiad . .	..	..	..	..	568
	3 Anand . .	..	..	..	..	590
	4 Petlad . .	..	..	..	..	541
	5 Borsad . .	..	..	..	494	..
	6 Cambay . .	185	..	..	..	..
	7 Matar . .	..	229	..	..	..

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8 Kapadvanj	..	274	..	..	..
	9 Balasinor	..	238	..	..	..
	10 Thasra	..	288	..	..	..

Amreli.—As in the case of Bhavnagar district the district level average for Amreli is also 126 persons per km². The most densely populated taluka is Kodinar, followed by the headquarters taluka of Amreli. The majority of the talukas fall in the density range of 101 persons and above per km². The distribution of the talukas by density ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.30

Distribution of talukas of Amreli district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka/ mahal	Persons per km ² .			
		51 to 100	101 to 150	151 to 200	201 to 300
1	2	3	4	5	6
Amreli	10	3	5	1	1
	1 Amreli . .	..	..	169	..
	2 Dhari . .	91	..	..	..
	3 Khambha mahal	88	..	..	..
	4 Rajula . .	..	119	..	..
	5 Jafrabad mahal	..	119	..	..
	6 Kodinar . .	..	..	..	203
	7 Kunkavav Vadia	..	145	..	..
	8 Babra . .	91	..	..	..
	9 Lathi . .	..	131	..	..
	10 Lilia mahal .	..	122	..	..

Valsad:—The district level average for Valsad is quite high, i.e., 273. Only two of the eight talukas in the district rank below the district average. The difference between the taluka with the highest density and that with the lowest density is fairly large. Dharampur taluka with a density of 117 is the least thickly populated while Gandevi taluka with a density of 561 is the most densely populated. The distribution of the talukas by density ranges is as follows:

STATEMENT II.31

Distribution of talukas of Valsad district by density ranges

Name of district	Name of taluka	Persons per km ² .				
		101 to 150	201 to 300	301 to 400	401 to 500	501 to 1,000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Valsad	8	1	1	4	1	1
	1 Valsad . . .	..	..	..	438	..
	2 Pardi . . .	..	..	380	..	..
	3 Umbergaon . . .	..	..	323	..	..
	4 Gandevi . . .	..	..	..	..	561
	5 Navsari . . .	..	..	376	..	..
	6 Chikhli . . .	..	..	306	..	..
	7 Bansda . . .	..	201	..	..	..
	8 Dharampur . . .	117	..	..	..	..

Gandhinagar and The Dangs:—Both Gandhinagar and The Dangs districts are single-taluka districts. In the case of Gandhinagar taluka the density is 308 persons per km². while in the case of The Dangs it is 55. The density of the population in The Dangs district is thus the second lowest in the State, after Kutch.

Let us now see the distribution of the talukas for the State as a whole in the different density ranges. Totalling up the various talukas in the districts under the various ranges we find that the large majority of the talukas are in the density range of 51 to 100 persons per km². This entire group of five density ranges given above takes up 168 talukas. The remaining 16 talukas are distributed among five different density ranges. There are seven talukas with a density of 50 persons or less per km². and two talukas with a density of 401 to 500. Five talukas fall in the next higher range of 501 to 1000 persons per km². One of the remaining two is in the range of 1001 to 2000 persons per km². and the last one in the range of 5000 persons and above per km².

We see, therefore, that while the majority of the talukas have a density of population ranging from 51 to 100 persons per km². to 301 to 400 persons per km²., 16 talukas in the districts are under two extremes and that the difference between the talukas at one end of the scale and the next is quite large. We also see that in all 47 talukas are below the density range of 101. These are therefore well below the State average of 136. Taking the detailed break-up of the talukas under the various density ranges next, we see that seven fall in the density range of 1 to 50, 40 under the range of 51 to 100, 46 under 101 to 150, 37 under 151 to 200, 30 under 201 to 300, 15 under 301 to 400, 2 under 401 to 500, 5 under 501 to 1000, 1 under 1001 to 2000 and 1 under 5000 and above. It would be of interest to identify here at one place the seven talukas which have a density of less than 50 and the nine talukas which have a density of over 400 persons. Those having a density of less than 50 persons per km². fall mainly in Kutch district.

as is to be expected, only one of them falling in another district, that is, Banas Kantha. Santalpur taluka in Banas Kantha falls in this group while those in Kutch district falling in this group are the talukas of Bhuj, Abdasa, Lakhpatt, Nakhatrana, Rapar and Bhachau. At the other end of the scale Borsad taluka in Kheda district and Valsad taluka in Valsad district fall in the range of 401 to 500. The majority of the talukas in the range of 501 to 1000 are in Kheda district. There are in all five such talukas in the State in this density range and three of these are in Kheda district. These are the talukas of Nadiad, Anand and Petlad. Vadodara taluka in Vadodara district and Gandevi taluka in Valsad district are the other two. Chorasali taluka of Surat district is the only taluka in the State in the density range of 1001 to 2000 and Ahmadabad City taluka in Ahmadabad district is the only taluka in the State in the density range of 5000 and above where industrial activity is predominant.

Another interesting aspect of the subject to which we may briefly refer is the influence of large urban centres, whether it be large towns or cities, on the general density average at the level of the district as a whole or that of the taluka. The figures for the different districts offer some interesting insight into the subject. For example Jamnagar City has very little influence on the general density ratio for the taluka as well as for the district as a whole. The highest density is in Jamnagar taluka itself, where it is 294 persons per km². What this means is that though the population of Jamnagar City is above 100,000 the area of the city is so large that the density figure returned is low. The same is the case with Rajkot and Bhavnagar where the highest figure is 371 and 204 respectively. The district

average for these two districts is 145 and 126 respectively. On the other hand, the population and its density in the case of Ahmadabad City has gone a long way in raising the density figure for the Ahmadabad City taluka as well as the district as a whole. The lowest density in the district is in Dhandhuka Taluka where it is 67 persons per km². and, except for the Ahmadabad City taluka, nowhere does the density rise above 283 persons per km². However, in the case of the Ahmadabad City taluka the density is as high as 6,289, the highest of any taluka in the State. It is easy to appreciate therefore how even the district average, which is 334, can tend to convey the wrong picture. In fact, no taluka except the Ahmadabad City taluka comes up to the district average and if we calculate the density without the Ahmadabad City taluka being included it works out to as low as 131. Kheda district on the other hand presents a more realistic picture. The district level density in respect of this district is 341 and there are five talukas which are well above this level. The talukas of Matar, Kapadvanj, Balasinor, Thasra, Mehmedabad, Borsad, Nadiad, Anand and Petlad are among the most developed in the State, each in its own way, and house and support comparatively large populations. It is not surprising, therefore, that the district ranks first in the State in the matter of density.

What we had said in respect of Ahmadabad district where the city population tends to inflate the average for the taluka level density is also true in respect of Vadodara and Surat districts.

The question also arises as to whether or not any inference can be drawn about the relative prosperity or otherwise of the various districts on the basis of population

density. Generally this can be a good index of prosperity of the given area. After all, if people tend to converge on and crowd into any area, there must be a reason for it. More often than not, economic reasons are among the chief causes that make people leave one place for another, decreasing the population of the one and increasing that of the other. We might examine how far this is true in respect of Gujarat by taking the five most densely populated and the five least densely populated districts in the State.

Kheda district, with a density of 341 persons per km²., ranks first in this regard and there is no doubt about it that this is a fairly true index of the prosperity of the district. It is inhabited by a highly intelligent and progressive population, has rich agricultural lands and a few natural resources and plenty of ready capital and know-how and entrepreneurship which the local population is willing to risk and invest locally. It is probably the most progressive district in the State and the fact that it enjoys the highest density of population is an accurate index of this. The next in rank is Ahmadabad district with 334 persons per km². But here, as we have already seen, the figure is shot up by the contribution of the population of Ahmadabad City and its suburbs and neighbouring towns. To that extent it can tend to be an inaccurate index of the prosperity of the district as a whole though, no doubt various urban centres in the district are prosperous concentrations of economic wealth. The same is also true of Gandhinagar district which ranks third with a density of 309 persons per km². But the economic prosperity of this district does not compare with that of Ahmadabad district. About 24,055 persons out of a total

population of 200,642 live in Gandhinagar town alone the majority of them manning the administrative offices and support services of the new State capital there. Valsad district ranks fourth with a density of 273. Here, however, it is a more accurate index of the prosperity of the district. The district is rich in agricultural lands and is one of the orchard areas of the State. It also grows extensive cash crops, some of which are exported. Vadodara district ranks fifth with a density of 254 persons per km². Here also the density is a fairly accurate index of the prosperity of the district. The district is rich in natural resources and is the home of large industrial establishments and manufacturing complexes.

At the other end of the scale the districts with the lowest density are Kutch with 19 persons per km²., The Dangs with 56, Jamnagar with 79, Surendranagar with 81 and Banas Kantha with 100. In each case the density is a fairly accurate index of the relative backwardness of these districts. All these districts rank among the comparatively more backward areas of the State, with perhaps the exception of Jamnagar district. However, the case of Jamnagar may come as a bit of surprise. The district is one of the State's richest areas in minerals and has a good deal of industrial trade also. However, these two sectors of the economy can at best engage only a nominal portion of the population of the district as a whole. Jamnagar City still remains the main hub of activity while the rest of the rural hinterland remains traditionally backward.

Thus we see that by and large the density of the population is generally a fairly accurate index of the relative prosperity or otherwise of the concerned area, though we

have also seen that it can sometimes be a misleading index also.

The last relevant question that may finally be posed is whether, apart from being an index of the prosperity or otherwise of an area, can the density of population also be an index of other co-related factors of a sociological or geographical or ecological significance? This whole question is really closely interlinked with the economic aspect that we have already referred to above. For example, the districts of Mahesana, Vadodara, Surat, Kheda, Valsad and Ahmadabad, all of which have a high density level, are in every way suitable to support, and promote the growth of, larger populations than in some of the other districts. On the other hand, districts like Kutch, Banas Kantha, Jamnagar, Surendranagar and The Dangs, all of which have a low density level are comparatively backward due in no small measure to the geographical factors that obtain in these districts. Much of Kutch district is uninhabitable on account of the bulk of its northern portion being little better than a swampy marsh for most of the year. The rest of it which is habitable is by and large subject to desert and semi-desert conditions. The latter type of condition also obtains in extensive tracts of Banas Kantha and Sabar Kantha districts. The density in Bharuch district is reduced to a low level of 123 persons per km². on account of much of the land mass being rendered uninhabitable by extensive forest areas and hilly tracts. In general we can say from the geographical point of view it would appear that the talukas which were located on the eastern hilly range of the State and on the northern border which is mostly arid and semi-arid have more or less low density as compared to the talukas in the mainland of

Gujarat having rich alluvial soil which offer good scope for economic growth.

Residential Houses, Households and Size of Households

We have been discussing the pattern of our distribution over the length and breadth of the State and have been concerned with the subject of how many of us live where. Another aspect related to the subject of living is the roof on our heads. It would therefore be appropriate to close this chapter by looking briefly at our living conditions, the kind of houses we live in and the size of the average household in Gujarat and the various districts. Not all of us are fortunate enough in having a roof over our heads or in being able to live in our own homes either as tenants or owners. The more unfortunate of us live under the open sky or in temporary sheds consisting of nothing more than a makeshift roof supported by rudimentary poles and often no wall at all; others are compelled to reside away from their homes for one reason or another and live in institutions of one kind or the other such as hospitals, asylums, jails, boarding houses, etc. Therefore, the Census has been wise in thinking of the population as living in houses or as being houseless and sometimes as being institutional population. It is under these three categories that we shall examine the population of Gujarat in so far as its living conditions are concerned.

The State's 26,697,475 people comprise a total of 4,684,456 households. Normally you would understand a household to mean a family. In general this would be correct. But for the purpose of the Census this is not always strictly so, particularly in the case of institutional households where a group of unrelated persons live together.

share a common roof and common facilities and eat from a common kitchen and yet do not comprise a family in the normal sense of that word. By and large, however, your understanding of the households as a family of related persons would be correct, barring the institutional households. The number of institutional households in the State is 14,782 which is 0.32 per cent of the total households. 58,987 households in the State are entirely houseless. The population of these households lives either under the open sky in fields or open compounds or such other spaces or on streets and manage with make-shift arrangements usually consisting of nothing more than a temporary roof to shelter them from the sun and rain but no walls. Houseless households in the State account for 1.26 per cent of the total households in the State. The majority of the households (98.74 per cent) however, have a roof over their heads and reside in houses. They are called residential households, and their number in the State is 4,610,687. Such households are generally referred to as residential households. Thus, in all, there are 4,684,456 households in the State. Out of every ten thousand of these, 9,842 are residential, 126 are houseless and 32 are institutional.

The number of houses which these residential and institutional households occupy is 6,589,980. The population of the 4,610,687 residential households is 26,281,526; that of the houseless households is 251,170 and that of the institutional households is 164,779.

Just in case you would be interested in knowing the position as regards houses and households in the districts. Statement II.32 is included in the book and gives figures

for each district showing the total number of houses as well as households of various types and the population accounted for by the three categories of households. You will be able to appreciate the information tabulated in this statement better if it is explained that, for the purpose of the Census, any structure which has a roof and four walls and can be and is used as living accommodation is treated as a house. The persons living in such a house as a 'family' are treated as a household. Those living in it as an unrelated group of persons but eating from the same kitchen and otherwise subject to organised management as a single unit are treated as institutional households. With this background you will be able to appreciate that each district has its quota of the fortunate ones who have proper houses to live in and those who have to manage without any housing at all. You will also see that the number of persons who are entirely houseless is in certain cases quite large. This is particularly true in the case of Surat, Kheda, Ahmadabad, Vadodara, Mahesana, Junagadh and Rajkot districts. However, lest the figures that are presented in the statement create too gloomy a picture, it should be clarified that there are a number of communities, particularly among the tribes, who prefer, by choice, to live in make-shift structures which may not always have conformed to the Census definition of a house in that they may not have had a roof and all the four walls. Some allowance should also be made for this, and it would be worth remembering that the picture may not always be as gloomy as it seems and that quite a fair number of the persons who have been classified as houseless by the Census may quite possibly be perfectly happy by the way they are living.

STATEMENT II.32

Statement showing data regarding Census Houses and Households of all districts of Gujarat State

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Houses	Total Households			
			Residential	Houseless	Institutional	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Gujarat State	6,589,980	4,610,687	58,987	14,782	4,684,456
1	Jamnagar	308,685	176,183	2,533	385	179,101
2	Rajkot	407,190	255,847	4,732	546	261,125
3	Surendranagar	238,170	142,598	872	284	143,754
4	Bhavnagar	345,865	227,255	1,557	394	229,206
5	Amreli	209,920	134,237	1,375	236	135,848
6	Junagadh	426,535	263,666	4,013	539	268,218
7	Kutch	279,050	165,909	1,229	664	167,802
8	Banas Kantha	315,935	224,942	2,112	361	227,415
9	Sabar Kantha	295,790	212,005	2,358	469	214,832
10	Mahesana	612,635	386,080	3,904	869	390,853
11	Gandhinagar	55,795	40,476	773	57	41,306
12	Ahmadabad	733,655	531,125	6,078	3,872	541,075

STATEMENT II.32—Contd.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13	Kheda	615,880	441,009	6,252	1,590	448,851
14	Panch Mahals	357,410	306,567	1,416	328	308,311
15	Vadodara	446,200	343,132	5,459	1,232	349,823
16	Bharuch	248,590	191,546	3,178	267	194,991
17	Surat	373,570	300,369	7,616	2,059	310,044
18	Valsad	300,195	250,449	3,158	601	254,208
19	The Dangs	18,910	17,292	372	29	17,693

STATEMENT II.32—Contd.

Statement showing data regarding Census Houses and Households of all districts of Gujarat State

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total population				% of Residential, Houseless, Institutional Households to Total Households			
		Residential	Houseless	Institutional	Total	Residential	Houseless	Institutional	
1	2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
	Gujarat State	26,281,526	251,170	164,779	26,697,475	98.42	1.26	0.32	
1	Jamnagar	1,096,328	9,200	5,815	1,111,343	98.37	1.41	0.22	
2	Rajkot	1,594,664	19,563	9,845	1,624,072	97.98	1.81	0.21	
3	Surendranagar	836,922	4,205	4,327	845,454	99.19	0.61	0.20	
4	Bhavnagar	1,391,587	6,973	6,725	1,405,285	99.15	0.68	0.17	
5	Amreli	840,023	6,449	2,258	848,730	98.82	1.01	0.17	
6	Junagadh	1,632,734	16,572	7,371	1,656,677	98.30	1.50	0.20	
7	Kutch	839,292	4,509	5,968	849,769	98.87	0.73	0.40	
8	Banas Kantha	1,251,857	10,605	2,921	1,265,383	98.91	0.93	0.16	
9	Sabar Kantha	1,170,264	13,141	4,232	1,187,637	98.68	1.10	0.22	
10	Mahesana	2,066,583	17,594	8,291	2,092,468	98.78	1.00	0.22	
11	Gandhinagar	196,280	3,777	585	200,642	97.99	1.87	0.14	
12	Ahmadabad	2,856,525	21,887	31,895	2,910,307	98.16	1.12	0.72	

STATEMENT II. 32—Contd.

	1	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13 Kheda	.	2,406,825	30,388	14,174	2,451,387	98.25	1.39	0.36
14 Panch Mahals	.	1,836,054	6,171	6,579	1,848,804	99.43	0.46	0.11
15 Vadodara	.	1,940,504	20,862	18,699	1,980,065	98.09	1.56	0.35
16 Bharuch	.	1,090,655	13,445	5,501	1,109,601	98.23	1.63	0.14
17 Surat	.	1,735,458	31,704	19,762	1,786,924	96.88	2.46	0.66
18 Valsad	.	1,407,576	12,677	8,489	1,428,742	98.52	1.24	0.24
19 The Dangs	.	91,395	1,448	1,342	94,185	97.73	2.10	0.17

STATEMENT II. 32—Contd.

Statement showing data regarding Census Houses and Households of all districts of Gujarat State

		% of Residential, Houseless, Institutional population to total population average size of Household							
Sl. No.	Name of district	Residential		Houseless		Institutional			
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Gujarat State	98.44	0.94	0.62	5.35	5.70			
1	Jamnagar	98.65	0.83	0.52	5.74	6.21			
2	Rajkot	98.19	1.20	0.61	5.72	6.22			
3	Surendranagar	98.99	0.50	0.51	5.42	5.88			
4	Bhavnagar	99.02	0.50	0.48	5.69	6.13			
5	Anreli	98.97	0.76	0.27	5.78	6.25			
6	Junagadh	98.55	1.00	0.45	5.72	6.18			
7	Kutch	98.77	0.53	0.70	4.71	5.06			
8	Banas Kantha	98.93	0.84	0.23	5.25	5.56			
9	Sabar Kantha	98.54	1.11	0.35	5.25	5.53			
10	Mahesana	98.76	0.84	0.40	4.98	5.35			
11	Gandhinagar	97.83	1.88	0.29	4.72	4.86			
12	Ahmadabad	98.15	0.75	1.10	5.05	5.38			

STATEMENT II.32—Concl'd.

	1	15	16	17	18	19
13 Kheda	.	98.18	1.24	0.58	5.08	5.46
14 Panch Mahals	.	99.31	0.33	0.36	5.61	6.00
15 Vadodara	.	98.00	1.05	0.95	5.34	5.66
16 Bharuch	.	98.29	1.21	0.50	5.50	5.69
17 Surat	.	97.12	1.77	1.11	5.61	5.76
18 Valsad	.	98.52	0.89	0.59	5.34	5.62
19 The Dangs	.	97.04	1.54	1.42	5.21	5.32

We have seen that the last Census has counted a total of 26,697,475 people in the State. We have also seen that the number of houses in the State is restricted to 6,589,980. We have further seen that a total population of 251,170 lives without any housing at all. Therefore, you may naturally wonder, if we take the rest of the population, (those living in houses), as to what might be the average size of a household. The average household in Gujarat consists of 5.70 members, i.e., nearly six persons per household. There is not much difference in this pattern in the rural areas as against the urban areas. The average rural household consists of 5.79 persons. The urban household, on the other hand, consists of 5.49. Has the picture changed since 1961 when the last Census was taken? Figures of that Census show that the average household in Gujarat in 1961 consisted of 5.35 members. It will thus be seen that during the last ten years the average household has shown a small tendency towards growth which is contrary to the popular belief that joint family system is breaking.

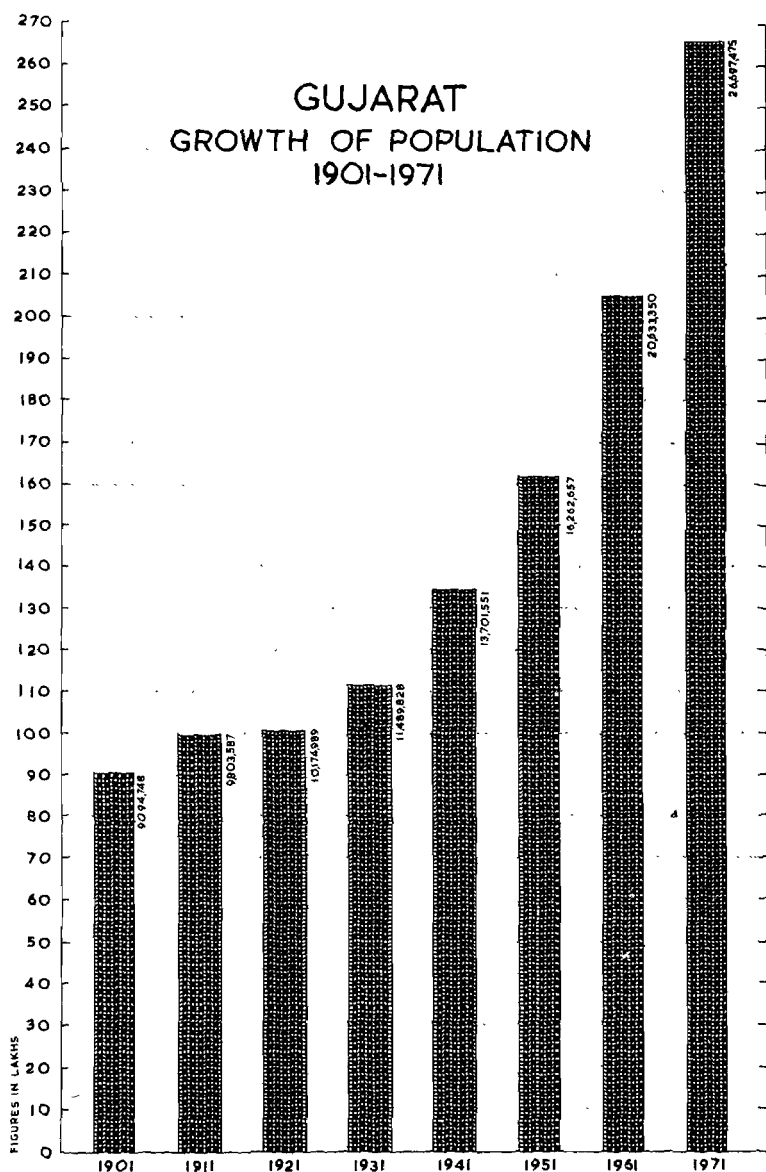
It may be of interest to you to enquire as to the size of the average household at the district level. For this purpose Statement II.33 has been incorporated in this narrative. It gives the average size of a household in Gujarat and in each of its districts at the 1961 Census and the 1971 Census. It also shows the average size of a rural and a urban household. You will see from the information in Statement II.33 that there is very little variation in the size of the average urban household in the various districts. In all cases, it ranges between 5 and 6 persons per household. In the rural areas, the pattern is however slightly different.

The average rural household in Jamnagar, Rajkot, Surendranagar, Bhavnagar, Amreli, Junagadh and Panch Mahals consists of 6 members. In all other districts the membership of the average rural household is between 5 and 6 members, except in Gandhinagar, where it is 5.

STATEMENT II.33

Average size of household for Total/Rural/Urban in 1961 and 1971

State/District	1961			1971		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Gujarat State .	5.35	5.42	5.14	5.70	5.79	5.49
Jamnagar .	5.74	5.94	5.40	6.21	6.43	5.84
Rajkot .	5.72	5.92	5.43	6.22	6.45	5.88
Surendranagar .	5.42	5.57	5.07	5.88	6.06	5.46
Bhavnagar .	5.69	5.85	5.39	6.13	6.31	5.79
Amreli .	5.78	5.87	5.46	6.25	6.33	5.93
Junagadh .	5.72	5.90	5.30	6.18	6.38	5.73
Kutch .	4.71	4.71	4.68	5.06	5.07	5.06
Banas Kantha .	5.25	5.32	4.51	5.56	5.63	5.04
Sabar Kantha .	5.25	5.30	4.65	5.53	5.58	5.05
Mahesana .	4.98	5.07	4.63	5.35	5.43	5.06
Gandhinagar .	4.72	4.72	..	4.86	4.96	4.24
Ahmadabad .	5.05	5.11	5.02	5.38	5.41	5.37
Kheda .	5.08	5.10	5.00	5.46	5.49	5.36
Panch Mahals .	5.61	5.70	4.92	6.00	6.09	5.36
Vadodara .	5.34	5.43	5.10	5.66	5.79	5.39
Bharuch .	5.50	5.57	5.13	5.69	5.75	5.41
Surat .	5.61	5.55	5.77	5.76	5.72	5.85
Valsad .	5.34	5.34	5.37	5.62	5.65	5.48
The Dangs .	5.21	5.21	..	5.32	5.32	..



Growth Rate of the Population

The one question towards which all the preceding treatment of this subject should be leading us is the rate at which we are growing and the consequences that this is likely to have on our future. The galloping rate of growth of the world population is causing anxiety not only to demographers and academic circles concerned with population but also to Governments which have to provide food, clothing and shelter to all as a whole. The estimated world population in 1970 stood at 3632*m. and at the rate at which it is growing it may well reach the figure of @6,515 millions by the year 2,000. In our own country our population at the 1971 Census stands at the frightening figure of 547,949,809 and by the year 1981 is likely to reach the even more startling figure of 657,329,000. The population of Gujarat at the latest Census is 26,697,475. By 1981 it is expected to grow to 33,195,000.

At all levels therefore not only in the world but also in our own country and in our own State the rapid growth of the population is causing deep concern. The main reason for this is that while better living conditions and the advance of science has ensured longer life expectancy and while our numbers have multiplied rapidly our natural resources, food supplies, clothing, cement, steel and other requirements in general are not sufficient to cope with the demands of the growing population. In this day and age it is still possible to manage with the little that is available but whether our population will eventually be the final course

*1970 Demographic Yearbook.

@United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Studies No. 49, "The World Population Situation in 1970" Pp. 62-63.

of the race is no longer a matter of speculation. The belief is seriously and genuinely held that unless we take urgent steps to curb the rate of growth of our population all over the world a time will come when our own unmanageable numbers will be our own undoing simply because the planet will no longer be able to hold or sustain us.

In this context the duty and responsibility of the more over populated countries of the world are urgent and inescapable. India as the second most populated country in the world after China owes the world population and to itself a special responsibility to curb the growth rate of its population. Already the country is overpopulated by normal standards and it has more people than its resources can support. The benefits conferred by science and technology are eaten up by the increasing members. We now produce more food than ever before. But there are more mouths to feed. As a result, when it is distributed among all the individual gets the same quantity or even less. This is as much true of houses, medicine, cloth and every other requirement of life. While it may appear that we have gone one step forward in production, we find on analysis that we have gone one step backward when we make the distribution. It has now become a national duty to curb the growth rate of our population.

To fully appreciate the rapid rate at which our numbers have been growing over the past few decades and the dire consequences that existing trends spell for the future, let us briefly examine the growth rate of our population since 1901.

Our national population at the 1901 Census was 238,337,313. At the next Census ten years later it grew

to 252,005,470, marking an increase of 5.73 per cent. Ten years later, in 1921, we numbered 251,239,492, this time registering a loss of 0.30 per cent during the ten years between the Census of 1911 and 1921. This loss was, however, more than made up at the next Census in 1931, when our numbers increased by 11.00 per cent to 278,867,430. This trend towards steady growth has continued ever since. The percentage increase at the subsequent Censuses in 1941, 1951, 1961 and 1971 have been to the order of 14.23 per cent, 13.31 per cent, 21.64 per cent, and 24.80 per cent. The population at these Censuses has been 318,539,060 in 1941, 360,950,365 in 1951, 439,072,582 in 1961, and 547,949,809 in 1971. Thus, despite the recognition of the problem of our too rapidly expanding population and despite national publicity and family planning programmes to curb the growth rate of the population we have not been able to do quite enough to keep our numbers down. The growth rate during the 1961-1971 decade has been alarming. While this has been less than we had anticipated in 1961, our present population size is nevertheless sufficient cause for deep concern. It remains a fact that, given our economic backwardness and limited resources, our population is growing too rapidly and we must arrest this trend if we are to prosper and attain the standard of living we desire for our people.

The picture is even more alarming in respect of our own State. Though the State is a comparatively recent creation, the population of the areas now comprising Gujarat State was 9,094,748 in 1901. In 1911 this shot up to 9,803,587 marking an increase of 7.79 per cent over 1901. While the national population marked a decrease of 0.30

per cent in 1921 the population of areas now comprising Gujarat was 10,174,989 in that year thus registering an increase of 3.79 per cent. The next Census in 1931 showed a population of 11,489,828, marking an even more steep increase of 12.92 per cent. This trend has continued until present day. The percentage increase in 1941 was 19.25 per cent, that in 1951 was 18.69 per cent, that in 1961 was 26.88 per cent and that in 1971 is 29.39 per cent. The actual population at these Censuses was 13,701,551 (1941), 16,262,657 (1951), 20,633,350 (1961), and 26,697,475 (1971). Invariably in all the Censuses since 1911 the growth rate of the population of Gujarat has been higher than the national average. The growth rate in 1911 was 7.79 per cent as against 5.73 per cent at the national level and that in 1921 was 3.79 per cent as against a loss of 0.30 per cent at the national level. The comparative figures for the subsequent Censuses are 12.92 per cent as against 11.00 per cent in 1931, 19.25 per cent as against 14.23 per cent in 1941, 18.69 per cent as against 13.31 per cent at 1951, 26.88 per cent as against 21.64 per cent in 1961 and 29.39 per cent as against 24.80 per cent at the latest Census in 1971.

While, therefore, the country has cause for anxiety at the rate at which its population is growing, we in Gujarat have even more reason to be anxious on this account. The growth at both the national and State levels has been particularly marked since 1921 and the trend has increased progressively in the decades that followed. This is due in large measure to greatly improved medical and health services, better living standards, increase in the life expectancy and reduction in certain types of selective mortality, such as deaths during infancy and childbirth. Modern

STATEMENT II.34

Statement showing data regarding growth rate since 1901, State/District

Sl. No.	Name of State/district	Rate of Growth								
		1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	Gujarat State	· ·	+ 7.79	+ 3.79	+ 12.92	+ 19.25	+ 18.69	+ 26.88	+ 29.39	
1	Jamnagar ·	· ·	+ 2.12	+ 0.01	+ 18.31	+ 21.71	+ 19.13	+ 34.29	+ 34.15	
2	Rajkot ·	· ·	+ 17.92	- 0.65	+ 15.73	+ 17.83	+ 16.27	+ 29.94	+ 34.39	
3	Surendranagar ·	· ·	+ 12.39	+ 2.12	+ 9.92	+ 12.32	+ 17.99	+ 30.97	+ 27.51	
4	Bhavnagar ·	· ·	+ 7.83	- 1.85	+ 14.13	+ 21.68	+ 15.88	+ 26.40	+ 25.54	
5	Amreli ·	· ·	+ 7.57	- 0.47	+ 14.40	+ 20.57	+ 14.78	+ 24.01	+ 27.09	
6	Junagadh ·	· ·	+ 10.68	+ 7.90	+ 18.13	+ 26.24	+ 13.66	+ 26.13	+ 33.00	
7	Kutch ·	· ·	+ 5.21	- 5.63	+ 7.42	- 2.42	+ 11.76	+ 22.70	+ 22.02	
8	Banas Kantha ·	· ·	- 4.26	+ 5.36	+ 8.27	+ 14.96	+ 26.90	+ 28.72	+ 27.03	
9	Sabar Kantha ·	· ·	+ 13.32	+ 10.23	+ 18.69	+ 17.15	+ 19.39	+ 34.29	+ 29.29	
10	Mahesana ·	· ·	- 0.37	+ 8.22	+ 10.64	+ 13.38	+ 19.08	+ 21.63	+ 28.14	
11	Gandhinagar ·	· ·	+ 2.38	+ 7.50	+ 10.81	+ 26.16	+ 24.39	+ 14.51	+ 46.39	
12	Ahmadabad ·	· ·	+ 5.20	+ 6.80	+ 10.98	+ 38.70	+ 28.66	+ 32.55	+ 36.62	
13	Kheda ·	· ·	- 2.00	+ 1.57	+ 8.79	+ 18.97	+ 20.66	+ 22.64	+ 23.96	

STATEMENT II. 34—Contd.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
14	Panch Mahals	.	..	+ 29.29	+ 16.35	+ 19.01	+ 15.06	+ 19.55	+ 29.85	+ 25.86
15	Vadodara	.	..	+ 18.05	+ 8.32	+ 16.38	+ 19.02	+ 15.92	+ 26.02	+ 29.64
16	Bharuch	.	..	+ 14.60	+ 1.53	+ 13.33	+ 19.41	+ 10.40	+ 24.31	+ 24.40
17	Surat	.	..	+ 6.94	+ 0.38	+ 9.94	+ 20.64	+ 18.66	+ 25.72	+ 36.01
18	Valsad	.	..	+ 6.94	+ 0.38	+ 9.94	+ 20.64	+ 18.66	+ 21.38	+ 25.57
19	The Dangs	.	..	+ 57.78	- 16.54	+ 38.74	+ 20.13	+ 17.51	+ 51.36	+ 31.60

pharmaceutical drugs have played a great role in curbing the death rates. We therefore seem to be caught in a vicious circle whereby we need to curb the growth rate of our population in order to better the living standards of our people but in actual fact better living standard and improved medical and health facilities and higher life expectancy are in the way of doing precisely this.

It may be of interest to you to learn of the growth rate of the population of the State at the level of the individual districts. Statement II.34 is included here to give you a complete idea of the growth rate of the population since 1901 both at the level of the State as a whole as well as at the level of individual districts. It will be seen from the statement that in 1911 all the districts except areas now constituting the district of Mahesana, Banas Kantha and Kheda registered growth. At the next Census the number of districts registering a decline went up from three to five, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Amreli, Kutch and The Dangs registering a decline. At all the subsequent Censuses from 1931 to 1971, however, none of the districts have registered a decline except Kutch district which showed a decline of 2.42 per cent at the 1941 Census. In general, therefore, all the districts of the State have by and large registered a uniform growth rate through the various decades.

How rapidly our numbers are growing is graphically depicted by Illustration 5, which shows the rate of growth of the population of Gujarat since 1901. This as well as the facts we have discussed concerning the growth rate of the population of our country as a whole point to the one inescapable conclusion about the need to curb our population growth at all levels. Unless we do this and

deliberately and consciously guide and control the growth of our numbers right from now, the time may well come when it may be too late to do anything about the problem, and the solutions that are possible today may not be so easily available in the future. Beyond a certain point the State cannot do very much to fight the situation. It falls more upon the individual citizen, who has to invoke his sense of responsibility towards the society of the present and future. The dangers that lie inherent are apparent and unless a variable war is waged, we may have to regret very much.

CHAPTER III

VILLAGE DWELLERS AND TOWN DWELLERS

IT HAS been said that the soul of India still lives in its villages. The justification for such an observation may lie perhaps in the fact that 80 out of every 100 Indians live in the villages and only 20 are dwellers of towns and cities. In Gujarat every 72 out of 100 persons live in the villages and the remaining 28 in the towns and cities. This being so, it becomes necessary for this portrait to examine in detail these two components of our population with respect to distribution patterns, density, sizes of households and such other related aspects. Even otherwise a discussion on the question of urbanisation is necessary. It is customary to divide the population at the Census of every country into two broad categories, namely, rural and urban. For our purpose the rural population consists of those living in the villages and the urban population of those living in the towns and cities. For more scientific purposes the rural and urban conditions are more specifically defined and we shall be discussing these shortly. The distinction between a rural and urban area is important since today urbanisation has become an accepted essential of progress. It is believed that urban centres serve as centres for the dissemination of knowledge, education and technology and that they influence the growth and development of the socio-economic life of the areas that lie around them. Of course, this is not always true, and it does sometimes happen that some urban centres develop merely as parasites on the country side on which they depend for sustenance but

to which they give back nothing. It is in this context that a look at our population from the point of view of urbanisation becomes both interesting and necessary.

We may make a beginning by asking ourselves as to what constitutes an urban area or, in other words, what characteristics any given place must possess in order that it may fall in the category of urban. No single answer is applicable everywhere.

There was no uniform criterion prescribed for distinguishing urban areas from rural in our country till the Census of 1951. The definition of town, therefore, varied from State to State and a place was treated as urban, if, in the opinion of the State Government or the Superintendent of Census Operations, it was deemed to possess urban characteristics. In view of the increasing importance of the study of urbanisation in all its aspects the need for a uniform understanding of the term by strictly defining the concept of 'town' was emphasised at the 1961 Census. For the purpose of 1961 Census 'town' was defined as a place having a municipality or a cantonment or a place with a population of 5,000 and over, if 75 per cent of its male population pursued non-agricultural activities. These tests were applied in respect of places other than municipalities or cantonments with reference to their population during 1951 Census. There were, however, certain exceptional cases where an area had a population of less than, 5,000 but had definite urban characteristics. These were newly found commercial areas, large urban housing settlements or places of tourists importance where all civic amenities were provided. All such cases were examined in detail in consultation with the Collectors of the

Districts and lists drawn were got approved by the State Government and the Registrar General, before they were finally accepted as such.

The list of urban areas, for the purpose, of 1971 Census, was likewise finalised in consultation with the State Government. The following criteria were applied for the purpose of determining any area as urban at 1971 Census:—

(1) All places where there is a Municipal Corporation, or a Municipality or a Town Committee or a Notified Area or a Cantonment Board have been treated as urban areas.

(2) The remaining places were recognised as enjoying urban characteristics and declared as urban areas only if the following conditions were fulfilled:

- (a) The estimated population at 1971 Census should be at least 5,000.
- (b) The density of population per sq. kilometre should not be below 400.
- (c) 75 per cent of the male working population should follow non-agricultural pursuits, and
- (d) In the opinion of the Director of Census Operations any other place where predominant urban characteristics are noticed.

How our own criteria for conferring urban status upon places vary from the standards adopted in other countries may be seen if we compare the definitions of rural and urban as prevailing in some other countries. The United Nations recognises that because of national differences

in the characteristics that distinguish rural from urban areas it is not yet possible to define the distinction between the urban and the rural population by a single definition which would be applicable to all countries. It therefore gives discretion to each country to decide for itself which of its areas are rural and which are urban.

For the information of the reader the definitions of "Urban" adopted by a few countries are reproduced below :—

United Kingdom

England and Wales: Area classified as urban for local government purposes, i.e., county boroughs, municipal boroughs and urban districts.

Northern Ireland: Administrative county boroughs, municipal boroughs and urban districts.

Scotland: Cities and all burghs.

Canada

Cities, towns and villages of 1,000 or more inhabitants, whether incorporated or unincorporated including urbanized fringes of cities classed as metropolitan area and other major urban areas. Also including urbanized fringes of certain smaller cities if the population of the city and its urban fringe was 10,000 or more.

France

Communes containing an agglomeration of more than, 2,000 inhabitants living in contiguous houses or with not more than 200 metres between houses, and communes of which the major part of the population is part of a multi-communal agglomeration of this nature.

United States

Places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, villages and towns (except towns in New England, New York and Wisconsin); the densely settled urban fringe whether incorporated or unincorporated, of urbanised areas; towns in New England and townships in New Jersey and Pennsylvania which contain no incorporated municipalities as subdivisions and have either 25,000 inhabitants or more or a population of 2,500 to 25,000 and a density of 1,500 persons or more per square mile; counties in States other than New England States, New Jersey and Pennsylvania that have no incorporated municipalities within their boundaries and have a density of 1,500 persons per square mile; unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more.

Japan

Urban municipalities (shi and ku of Tokyo-to) usually having 30,000 or more inhabitants and which may include some rural area as well as urban cluster.

U.S.S.R.

Cities and urban-type localities, officially designated as such by each of the constituent Republics, usually according to the criteria of number of inhabitants and predominance of agricultural or non-agricultural workers and their families.

United Arab Republic

Governorates of Cairo, Alexandria, Port Said, Ismaillia Suez, frontier governorates and capitals of other governorates as well as district (markaz) capitals.

Ceylon

Areas which statutorily declared as coming within the purview of municipal, urban or town councils (3 types of local authorities) are taken as urban while all other areas are taken as rural.

Pakistan

(1) All areas having Town Committees under the Basic Democracies Order were treated as urban;

(2) Concentrations of population in continuous collections of houses possessing one or more of the following characteristics:

- (a) Those where the community sense is well-developed and the community maintains public utilities such as roads, street lighting, water supply, sanitary arrangements etc.
- (b) Centres of trade and commerce with a population substantially non-agricultural or having a non-agricultural labour concentration.
- (c) Those possessing a markedly high literacy rate or which are civil stations.

Compared to the position in these countries the approach to the problem of distinguishing rural from urban in India is, therefore, quite scientific. We recognise as urban all such places which are municipal corporations or municipalities or under the administration of town or notified area committees or cantonment boards. Where areas do not fall under this requirement but still enjoy urban characteristics, certain empirical tests are applied

before these areas are recognised as urban. It is necessary for these other areas for being recognised as urban that they have a minimum population of 5,000, a density of not less than 400 per km². and that 75 per cent of the male working population should be engaged in non-agricultural economic activity.

With this background, and in view of the fact that India is still largely a country of villages where the bulk of the population subsists on agriculture, it is not surprising that 80 per cent of the national population is classified as rural and only 20 per cent is classified as urban. In our own State, as we have already seen, 72 per cent of the population is rural and 28 per cent is urban. In other words, 72 out of every 100 persons in our State live in the villages and only 28 out of every 100 live in the towns and cities.

In view of what we have said about the importance of urbanisation as an essential of progress it would be worth-while to examine the extent of urbanisation in the various States of our country. Gujarat is among the most highly urbanised States in India. In Maharashtra the proportion of the urban population is even higher. There, 31 out of every 100 persons live in urban areas and the remaining 69 in rural areas. The corresponding figures for both Mysore and Punjab are 24.31 and 23.73 respectively. In Tamil Nadu 30.26 persons per hundred live in urban areas. In West Bengal 24.75 persons per hundred and in Goa, Daman and Diu 26.44 persons per hundred live in urban areas. In Pondicherry 42.04 persons per hundred live in urban areas. The case of the Union Territories of Delhi and Chandigarh is slightly

different in the sense that these two territories cover a limited area and support and cater strictly to non-agricultural pursuits. In Chandigarh over 91 per cent of the population is urban and only 9 per cent is rural. Similarly, in Delhi, the proportion is 90 to 10. In Andaman and Nicobar Islands 22.77 persons out of every hundred live in urban areas. In all other States and Union Territories the proportion of the urban population is lower than the national average. The extent of urbanisation is particularly low in the States of Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Orissa and Arunachal Pradesh. In Assam only 8.87 per cent of the population is urban. In Bihar only 10 per cent of the population is urban. For Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Orissa and Arunachal Pradesh the figures are 6.99 per cent, 9.95 per cent 8.41 per cent and 3.70 per cent respectively. We thus see that among the States, and excluding the union territories, the extent of urbanisation is the third highest in Gujarat, which is next only to Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

As we have already seen, 72 out of every 100 persons in our State live in rural areas. We have earlier asked ourselves the question as to what constitutes an urban area. We have also seen that the population living in rural areas is in our country automatically classed as rural. The moment a place acquires urban characteristics and conforms to standards laid down for the conferment of urban status, such an urban status is conferred on it and it ceases to be rural and becomes urban. Thus, a further question may arise as to what precisely a village is. Simply stated, a village is merely an area which has been separately demarcated as a unit for revenue and administration purposes. Every bit of land in our State fall;

in one village or the other. Every village is administered by a village administration, has its known boundaries, maintains its separate records and is recognised for administrative purposes as a separate unit. Thus, each such unit separately demarcated in this way and administered as an independent unit and having its distinct known limits and maintaining its own separate revenue accounts is a village.

It is already seen earlier that the houselisting operations in the State of Gujarat preceded the Census enumeration. Each of the revenue villages notified by the Revenue Department was given a location code number. Similarly the urban areas were also given the location code numbers. At the time of houselisting operation there were 18,696 villages in the State of Gujarat. After the houselisting operation was complete it was observed that the village Dani Limda of Ahmadabad district and village Ukai of Surat district were satisfying the definition laid down for treating the place as urban. Accordingly both these villages were treated as urban for the purpose of enumeration. It was also noticed that the village Motipura of Sabar Kantha district was already covered under the town limits of Himatnagar town. Thus there was a reduction of three villages from the State list. It was also observed that the non-municipal areas of the towns were basically rural in characteristics and naturally such areas could not be treated as urban areas. There were 13 such areas in the State. The non-municipal areas of Patan-Veraval towns of Junagadh district, Khambhalia town of Jamnagar district, Upleta town of Rajkot district, Mandvi town of Kutch district, Patan, Visnagar and Vijapur towns of Mahesana district, Dholka, Viramgam and Sahijpur Bogha

towns of Ahmadabad district, Rajpipla of Bharuch district and Palanpur of Banas Kantha district were, therefore, treated as rural areas. They were also assigned the location code numbers. Thus the figure of the villages increased by 13.

A concept of urban agglomeration was adopted at the 1971 Census. It is clear that the statutory limits of the towns are not always real urban limits of the towns. Due to the expansion of towns, suburbs outside the statutory limits of town are created or the projections of the towns enter the rural limits of the nearby villages or there may be contiguous out-growths in the non-municipal areas of towns. Besides a city and one or more adjoining towns may form a continuous spread due to expansion of one or all such towns. All such cases were treated as urban agglomerations. It was observed that nine villages in the State which were on the urban fringes of the towns were covered under the agglomeration of the respective towns. They were Asarva, Rakhial, Rajpur-Hirpur, Bagefardosh and Khokhra-Mehmedabad of Ahmadabad district and were agglomerated with Ahmadabad city. Village Jawanpura of Idar taluka of Sabar Kantha district was agglomerated with Idar town of the district. Similarly villages Bhagda Khurd, Pardi, Sondhpur and Mogarwadi of Valsad district were agglomerated with Valsad town. All these nine villages were, therefore, treated as urban for the demographic purposes. It would thus appear that 12 villages were reduced from the number of villages standing at 18,696 at the time of houselisting operations. Against the reduction of 12, 13 places which were non-municipal areas of the towns were treated as

rural areas, thus, the number of villages in Gujarat according to the Census now stands at 18,697.

Out of these 18,697 villages in the State, 422 are uninhabited and no population lives in these villages.

However, there is a great variation between the smallest and the largest villages. The smallest of these rural villages is Chadika village in Upleta taluka of Rajkot district where only one male person was found living at the 1971 Census. Chanduri village in the same taluka had a population of only 2. Kachotiya village in Sihor taluka of Bhavnagar district and Indreshvar village in Junagadh taluka, Kerambha village in Talala taluka and Mathura Thana village in Bhesan taluka of Junagadh district as well as Roha village (Kilavas) in Nakhatrana taluka of Kutch district also had a population of only 2 persons. Limbdi Dhar in Junagadh taluka and Barwala in Una taluka of Junagadh district each returned a population of only 3 persons and Pirotan (Bet) (Island) in Jamnagar taluka of Jamnagar district returned a population of 4. Interestingly, the population of all these villages is entirely male except in the case of Kachotiya in Sihor taluka of Bhavnagar district, where the population consists of one male and one female.

At the other end of the scale, a village may consist of a population as high as 20,000. The population of each of the ten largest villages in the State is above 11,000. The density in the case of each of these villages except one is also above 400 and the literacy rate is quite high. The names of the ten largest villages in the State, their population and area, and the density, sex ratio and literacy in each are tabulated in the statement alongside.

STATEMENT III.1

Statement showing 10 largest villages in the State

Name of villages	Taluka	District	Area of villages km ²	Population			Density per km ²	Sex ratio	Literacy
				Persons	Males	Females			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 Chaklasi	• Nadiad	Kheda	25.31	20,211	10,696	9,515	799	890	41.58
2 Bhayavadar	• Upleta	Rajkot	93.75	15,576	7,938	7,638	166	962	40.99
3 Ode	• Anand	Kheda	32.98	14,620	7,772	6,848	443	881	52.13
4 Samarkha	• Anand	Kheda	21.27	13,113	6,734	6,379	617	947	46.18
5 Jhalod	• Jhalod	Panch Mahals	19.02	12,922	6,660	6,262	679	940	43.55
6 Mahudha	• Nadiad	Kheda	13.61	12,723	6,640	6,083	921	916	50.22
7 Ankla	• Borsad	Kheda	21.32	11,942	6,395	5,547	560	867	47.46
8 Chorwad	• Malia	Junagadh	21.54	11,857	6,055	5,802	550	958	26.03
9 Karamsad	• Anand	Kheda	18.02	11,678	6,153	5,525	648	898	56.19
10 Savli	• Savli	Vadodara	15.82	11,334	5,916	5,418	716	916	46.31

One point of interest that the information in this statement throws up may also be mentioned. And that is that size alone has nothing to do with the distinction between rural and urban. Three of our smallest towns each have a population of less than 5,000 persons. By comparison, each of our ten largest villages has a population of above 11,000 and yet remain rural.

You will appreciate from the foregoing account of our ten largest and smallest villages that the size of the villages both in geographical area as well as in population size will vary from place to place. The number of habitations or houses may, however, give some indication about the size of the village site on which the houses are built. Let us therefore examine the distribution of our villages by occupied residential houses. As we have already seen, the population of nine villages is entirely houseless. Out of the remaining 18,266 inhabited villages 7,904 villages have less than 100 residential houses and 5,300 villages have between 100 and 199 residential houses. There are 2,305 villages where the number of houses range from 200 to 299 and 1,106 villages where the number of residential houses range from 300 to 399. The number of villages in the next range (400 to 499 residential houses) is 578 and of those in the next higher range (500 to 999) is 898. The very large villages where the number of residential houses is above 1000 are restricted to 175 in number. Of these, 165 have residential houses ranging from 1000 to 1999 and 10 have residential houses ranging from 2000 to 4999.

Thus we see that out of the 18,266 inhabited villages in the State 13,204 have houses below 200 in number and

STATEMENT III.2

Distribution of rural occupied residential houses by size class of villages

State/district	Total No. of talukas	Total No. of villages*	Number of occupied residential houses										Villages to without occupied residential houses
			Less than 100	100 to 199	200 to 299	300 to 399	400 to 499	500 to 999	1000 to 1999	2000 to 4999			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
Gujarat State	184	18,275	7,904	5,300	2,305	1,106	578	898	165	10	9		
1 Jamnagar	10	706	292	240	94	43	16	17	3	..	1		
2 Rajkot	13	859	322	296	138	53	15	27	7	1	..		
3 Surendranagar	9	648	288	218	76	25	19	19	3	..	..		
4 Bhavnagar	12	879	331	295	130	62	25	34	1	..	1		
5 Amreli	10	595	182	239	93	33	32	14	2	..	..		
6 Junagadh	15	1,092	434	357	159	60	28	47	5	..	2		
7 Kutch	9	900	516	184	80	50	24	38	5	..	3		
8 Banas Kantha	11	1,351	609	456	168	47	25	41	4	..	1		
9 Sabar Kantha	10	1,386	769	345	119	72	38	39	4	..	..		

STATEMENT III.2—Contd.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10 Mahesana	11	1,084	236	294	206	126	63	130	29	..	..
11 Gandhinagar	1	75	6	11	18	12	6	13	9	..	..
12 Ahmadabad	7	674	137	219	113	83	51	60	11	..	..
13 Kheda	10	957	156	231	161	113	83	161	46	6	..
14 Panch Mahals	11	1,903	1,021	472	228	93	39	44	5	1	..
15 Vadodara	12	1,677	941	440	142	54	27	65	6	2	..
16 Bharuch	11	1,137	637	299	95	51	16	35	4	..	..
17 Surat	13	1,218	538	408	137	53	26	45	10	..	1
18 Valsad	8	823	197	279	148	76	45	68	10	..	..
19 The Dangs	1	311	292	17	..	..	..	1	1	..	..

* Excluding deserted villages, and those given urban status or forming parts of urban agglomerations

175 have houses above 1000 in number. The number of villages between these two extremes is 4,887 where the number of houses ranges from 200 to 999. Thus, the majority of the villages are small in size where the number of houses does not exceed 200 per village.

The picture is, however, not uniform in all districts, as will appear from Statement III.2 which shows the district-wise distribution of villages in each district by occupied residential houses. It will be seen from this Statement that while the overall trend is in conformity with the pattern that we have discussed at the State level there are interesting and significant differences of detail in the case of some districts. The examples of Junagadh, Banas Kantha, Sabar Kantha, Mahesana, Panch Mahals, Vadodara, Bharruch and Surat districts may be particularly noted. The high proportion of villages in the medium range in districts like Kheda also invites attention.

Urban Areas

Let us next take the urban component of the population. We have already seen that 72 per cent of the population of Gujarat lives in rural areas and 28 per cent in urban areas. The rural population occupies 97.65 per cent of the total geographical area of the State while the urban population is restricted to 2.35 per cent of the total geographical area of the State. This means that nearly 98 out of every 100 km². of the geographical area of the State are under rural and 2 km². are under urban category. The much higher density of the population in the urban areas should, therefore, be clear from the fact that though only 2.35 per cent of the total geographical area

of the State is under urban category it accommodates as high a proportion of the State population as 28.08 per cent.

We have earlier noted the belief that urbanisation is an essential of progress and that the extent of urbanisation is therefore one of the accurate indices of the relative prosperity or otherwise of the concerned area. In this context it would, therefore, be interesting to take a note of the degree of urbanisation in the various districts of the State. From the good deal that has already been said about the various districts of the State so far it will not surprise you to learn that Ahmadabad district is the most highly urbanised district of the State followed by Rajkot, Jamnagar, Surat and Bhavnagar districts in that order. In Ahmadabad district, 66.86 per cent of the total population of the district is urban. This means not only that the number of urban centres in Ahmadabad is proportionately greater than those obtaining in other districts but also that these centres attract concentrations of population from the rural to the urban areas in a greater degree than may be true in the case of the other districts. In Rajkot district, 38.37 per cent of the population is urban while in Jamnagar district 35.31 per cent of the total district population is urban. Surat district ranks fourth with 33.73 per cent of its population being urban and Bhavnagar district ranks fifth with 31.99 per cent of its population being urban. The extent of urbanisation in Vadodara and Junagadh districts is also higher than the State level average of 28.08 per cent. In Vadodara district 30.46 per cent of the district population is urban and in Junagadh district 29.33 per cent of the district population is urban. In Surendranagar and Kutch

districts also the extent of urbanisation compares favourably with the State level average, though in both districts it is lower than the State level average. 27.01 per cent of the population of Surendranagar district and 25.24 per cent of that of Kutch district is living in urban areas. In all other districts the extent of urbanisation is low as compared to these nine districts which we have discussed so far and as compared also to the State level average. The lowest degree of urbanisation is found in Sabar Kantha district and Banas Kantha ranks next. In the former only 8.75 per cent of the population is urban and in the latter 9.45 per cent is urban. Panch Mahals district also has a low urbanisation level. Here only 11.21 per cent of the population is urban. In Gandhinagar district the proportion is only slightly higher than Panch Mahals, with 11.99 per cent of its population being urban. In Bharuch and Valsad districts the percentage of the urban population to the total population of the district is 17.39 per cent and 17.95 per cent respectively and in Mahesana it is just slightly higher at 18.58 per cent. Finally, we come to Kheda and Amreli districts. In Kheda district, in the context of what we have said so far about this district, the extent of urbanisation is surprisingly small. Only 19.95 per cent of the population of this district is urban. In the case of Amreli 19.88 per cent of the population of the district is urban.

How matters stand in this regard is quite clearly suggested by the break-up of the towns of Gujarat according to functional categories and size class. Functional categories have been assigned to the towns according to the nature of the predominant economic activity being carried out in these towns. As we have already seen

earlier, towns have also been categorised according to size class on the basis of population size. For the purpose of refreshing memory we may again tabulate the population ranges according to which the size classes have been fixed. You will recall that in all six classes of towns are recognised according to the size of the population. These are as follows:—

<i>Size class</i>	<i>Population range</i>
I	100,000 and above
II	50,000 to 99,999
III	20,000 to 49,999
IV	10,000 to 19,999
V	5,000 to 9,999
VI	Less than 5,000

In the context of this you will be able to appreciate the quality of urbanisation in our State if it is next mentioned that as high a number as 49 out of a total of 216 towns in the State are still largely dependent on primary activity, i.e., on economic activity relating to the agricultural and related sectors. Out of the remaining 167 towns, 78 are such where primary activity figures in combination with one or more of other types of activities. There are thus only 89 out of a total of 216 towns in the State where primary activity does not figure among the main economic activities in a big way. But 127 or the majority of the towns still depend on primary economy, that is agriculture.

If we look at the distribution of towns by size class we find that the number of towns with a population of 20,000 and above is only 67 while the number of those

with a population of less than 20,000 is as high as 149. Of those with a population of 20,000 and above only 7 are in class I, 18 in class II and 42 in class III. Of the remaining 73 are in class IV, 71 in class V and 5 in class VI. Thus, by and large, the majority of the towns in the State are small towns having a population of less than 20,000. This, therefore, correctly reflects the degree and quality of urbanisation in the State.

Let us see next what figures of urbanisation that we have earlier seen in respect of the individual district, show with regard to the quality of urbanisation in the districts. We have seen that urbanisation is highest in Ahmadabad district where 66.86 per cent of the population lives in urban areas. This district has 21 towns out of which one is a class I city with a population of 100,000 and above, 6 are class III towns in the population range of 20,000 to 49,999, 7 are class IV towns in the population range of 10,000 to 19,999, 6 are class V towns in the population range of 5,000 to 9,999 and one town where the population is below 5,000 falls in class VI. We see, therefore, that the high proportion of urbanisation in this district is not a freak phenomenon accounted for merely by a few isolated but large urban centres but a true index of a consistent trend, though there is not a single town in class II.

The second most urbanised district is Rajkot district where 38.37 per cent of the population lives in urban areas. This district consists of one city in class I and 11 other towns. Inclusive of Rajkot city, the urban centres consist of 7 towns in the population ranges of 20,000 and above and 5 towns in the population range of 10,000 to 19,999. The majority of the towns thus fall in the

population range of 20,000 and above and there is reason to believe that besides the city of Rajkot most of the towns and particularly Gondal, Dhoraji, Morvi, Jetpur, Upleta, Wankaner and Jasdan are full-fledged urban centres.

Jamnagar district, where 35.31 per cent of the population lives in urban areas and consists of one city in class I, 11 towns in class IV, 2 towns in class V and one town in class VI. In this case, though the degree of urbanisation is the third highest in the State the quality of that urbanisation may well be a shade different from that found in Ahmadabad or Rajkot districts. As high a number as 11 out of 15 urban centres in the district fall in the population range of 10,000 to 19,999. Thus the high rank of Jamnagar district on the urbanisation map may be more due to the large number of urban centres than to the quality of urban life at these centres.

Surat district, where 33.73 per cent of the population is urban, ranks fourth in the extent of urbanisation in the State. Here is an example quite the reverse from Jamnagar district. The district has 11 towns, just four less than Jamnagar, and yet has a degree of urbanisation just 1.58 per cent less than Jamnagar district. Surat is an ancient city and the leading centre of the *Jari* industry in the country. Udhana, Vyara, Bardoli and Olpad towns are among other towns in the district which play an important role in the life of the surrounding countryside, notwithstanding the fact that these are only class IV towns. Thus even though the number of urban centres in the district is comparatively low, most of these are dynamic centres which have a considerable influence in the life of the surrounding countryside.

The next in rank is Bhavnagar district, where 31.99 per cent of the population lives in urban areas. This district consists of 14 urban centres, of which Bhavnagar city is in class I, Mahuva, Savarkundla, Palitana and Botad towns are in class III and there are four towns in class IV and the five towns in class V. Bhavnagar, Mahuva, Savarkundla, Palitana, Botad, Talaja and Sihor are of some importance as urban centres but the remaining towns fulfil only limited urban functions when compared to what is expected of these towns as urban centres.

In Vadodara district 30.46 per cent of the population of the district is urban. This is yet another of those districts in the State where the quality of urbanisation is a real force in the life of the district. Vadodara city is the third largest city of the State and the centre not only of well organised urban society but also of trade, industry and commerce of considerable proportion. Dabhoi, a class III town, is an old historical town which still has considerable importance as an urban centre in the district. Fertilizernagar, Jawaharnagar, Sankheda and Sinor, even though these are only class V towns, are dynamic and important centres. Thus, though Vadodara ranks sixth among the districts of the State as regards the extent of urbanisation, perhaps it would not be wrong to say that the quality of the urbanisation in this district is more real and genuine than that in the case of, say, Jamnagar district or Bhavnagar district.

In Junagadh, 29.33 per cent of the district population is urban. Like Ahmadabad this district also has 21 urban centres but as large a number as 16 out of these 21 towns fall in the population range of 5,000 to 19,999.

Here, therefore, is a case of numerous urban centres shooting up the urbanisation level figure in respect of the district population but the majority of these centres are comparatively small.

The same is the case with Surendranagar and Kutch districts where the proportion of the urban population is 27.01 and 25.24 per cent respectively of the total district population in each case. Surendranagar district consists of 11 towns, of which Surendranagar town, falling in category II, is the largest and Wadhwan, Limbdi and Dhrangadhra are the next three largest. The really important towns are Surendranagar, Wadhwan, Limbdi, Dhrangadhra, Thangadh, Sayla and Chotila. The remaining towns, viz., Halvad, Patdi, Kharaghoda and Lakhtar fulfil more limited roles than these other towns, most of which are still fairly dynamic urban centres closely linked with the rural hinterland. In Kutch, though the proportion of the urban population is 25.24 per cent, none of the 11 towns in the district except Gandhidham and Kandla bear comparison with the other well-known towns in the State.

In all other districts the extent of urbanisation is too low to be taken seriously as an index of progress in the district. By and large, therefore, though Gujarat is one of the most highly urbanised States in the country, the quality of that urbanisation still leaves much to be desired.

We may also in this context briefly look at the degree of urbanisation in the talukas in respect of those talukas where this is significant. Perhaps the best yard-stick by which to judge significance would be to take the district

level average of urbanisation and compare the taluka level figures against this.

In Jamnagar, where 35.31 per cent of the district population is urban, eight of the ten talukas of the district are below this level. From the talukawise figures it is seen that the major contribution towards the urbanisation of the district is made by Jamnagar and Okhamandal talukas. In Jamnagar taluka the percentage of urbanisation is 66.89 per cent, while in Okhamandal taluka it is 62.15 per cent. This means that about 67 out of every 100 persons in Jamnagar taluka and 62 out of every 100 in Okhamandal taluka live in urban areas. The degree of urbanisation in these two talukas can be said to be very high. Out of the remaining eight talukas only Khambhalia taluka reaches the State level average. The extent of urbanisation in the State as a whole is 28.08 per cent of the total population. As compared to this, 28.58 per cent of the population of Khambhalia taluka is urban. In Dhrol 25.11 per cent of the taluka population is urban. In all other talukas the extent of urbanisation is comparatively low and Kalyanpur taluka is entirely rural.

In Rajkot district, four talukas/mahals are entirely rural. These are Kotda Sangani, Jamkandorna, Lodhika and Maliya talukas. Out of the remaining nine talukas/mahals that have an urban population only three exceed the district level average. 38.37 per cent of the population of this district is urban. As against this, 76.67 per cent of the population of Rajkot taluka, 40.66 per cent of Jetpur taluka and 50.34 per cent of Dhoraji taluka is urban. Two other talukas, Gondal and Morvi, exceed

the State level average, though they are below the district level average. As against 28.08 per cent of the population that is urban at the State level as a whole, 31.35 per cent of the population of Gondal and 32.75 per cent of the population of Morvi is urban. Morvi town ranks ninth among the ten largest towns of the State after the seven cities. Dhoraji town, which is also in Rajkot district, ranks tenth. Thus, two of the ten largest towns of the State are in this district. The extent of urbanisation in Upleta and Wankaner is also satisfactorily high, 25.64 per cent of the population of Upleta and 27.08 per cent of the population of Wankaner being urban. On the other hand, urbanisation in Paddhari mahal and Jasdan taluka is still quite low.

In Surendranagar district, where 27.01 per cent of the total population is urban, only two talukas reach this level, though Chotila taluka nearly attains it also. 60.50 per cent of the population of Wadhwan taluka and 36.84 per cent of the population of Dhrangadhra taluka is urban. For Chotila taluka the figure is 25.84 per cent. Muli taluka is entirely rural. The figures for Limbdi Sayla, Halvad, Dasada and Lakhtar are 16.76 per cent, 17.85 per cent, 14.39 per cent, 13.84 per cent and 19.08 per cent respectively.

All the talukas of Bhavnagar district are urbanised in varying degrees. 31.99 per cent of the total population of the district is urban. There are only two talukas in the district which reach this level. 77.82 per cent of the population of Bhavnagar taluka and 40.68 per cent of the population of Botad taluka is urban. Other fairly well urbanised talukas include Palitana (25.84 per

cent), Savarkundla (23.86 per cent) and Mahuva (21.21 per cent). The lowest urbanisation is in Talaja and Umralla talukas and it is comparatively poor in respect of Ghogha mahal, Gariadhar taluka and Gadhada taluka.

Two out of the ten talukas/mahals in Amreli are entirely rural. The remaining eight talukas/mahals share a total of 12 towns. While the extent of urbanisation in the district is lower than the State average, there are six talukas/mahals in the district which exceed the district level of urbanisation. 19.88 per cent of the population of the district is urban. As against this 31.17 per cent of the population of Amreli taluka, 24.09 per cent of that of Lathi taluka, 22.64 per cent of that of Dhari taluka, 22.24 per cent of that of Kunkavav-Vadia, 21.23 per cent of that of Jafrabad, and 20.38 per cent of Rajula taluka is urban. The extent of urbanisation in Kodinar and Babra talukas is comparatively low (15.40 per cent and 13.47 per cent respectively).

Junagadh is among the districts having the largest number of towns in the State. 14 out of its 15 talukas/mahals are urbanised and share a total of 21 towns. 29.33 per cent of the district population is urban. Four talukas of the district exceed this level. These are the talukas of Junagadh (53.97 per cent), Patan-Veraval (39.48 per cent), Porbandar (47.32 per cent) and Ranavav (34.93 per cent). The proportion of the urban population in Vanthali (29.27 per cent), Manavadar (27.24 per cent), Mangrol (26.55 per cent) and Kutiyana (20.79 per cent) is also quite high. By contrast, only 9.27 per cent of the population of Talala taluka and 9.43 per cent of the population of Malia taluka is urban. In Mendarda, 17.58

per cent and in Keshod 18.63 per cent of the population is urban.

Kutch has eight talukas sharing a total of eleven towns. The ninth taluka, Lakhpat, is entirely rural. 25.24 per cent of the population of Kutch district is urban. The highest urbanisation is in Anjar taluka where 58.83 per cent of the population is urban, followed by Bhuj taluka with 37.54 per cent and Mandvi with 24.10 per cent. The percentage of the urban population in Nakhatrana and Rapar talukas is as low as 7.26 per cent in both cases. In Abdasa and Bhachau talukas also the level of urbanisation is quite low.

Banas Kantha district is one of the least urbanised in the State. Only 9.45 per cent of the population of the district is urban and five of the eleven talukas in the district are entirely rural. These are Vadgam, Kankrej, Vav, Dhanera and Danta talukas. The remaining six talukas share the eight towns that are located in the district. The extent of urbanisation in Deodar and Tharad talukas is below the district level average while Santalpur, with 9.53 per cent of its population being urban, just crosses the district level average. 28.88 per cent of the population of Radhanpur is urban, thus placing this taluka above the State level average. The proportion of the urban population in Palanpur and Deesa talukas is 20.70 per cent and 17.57 per cent respectively.

Sabar Kantha district is even less urbanised than Banas Kantha district. Five out of the ten talukas/mahals of the district are entirely rural. These are Vijayanagar, Bhiloda, Meghraj, Malpur and Bayad. The remaining five talukas

share the seven towns of the district. Urbanisation is highest in Modasa taluka, where 20.38 per cent of the taluka population is urban. In Himatnagar taluka 16.54 per cent of the population is urban, while the figure for Prantij is 13.90 per cent. Idar taluka where 7.53 per cent of the population is urban is the least urbanised and Khed Brahma taluka where 8.99 per cent of the population is urban just manages to cross the district level average. None of the talukas in this district reaches the State level average.

Even in Mahesana district, where 18.58 per cent of the population is urban, only two talukas reach the State level average. Both in Sidhpur and Kalol talukas 29.17 per cent of the population is urban. Out of the remaining nine talukas Sami taluka is entirely rural and only four other talukas reach the district level average of urbanisation. 21.00 per cent of the population of Mahesana taluka, 20.07 per cent of Harij taluka, 25.39 per cent of Patan taluka and 21.69 per cent of Visnagar taluka is urban. Urbanisation is lowest in Chanasma taluka where only 8.26 per cent of the population is urban, followed next by Vijapur taluka with 10.36 per cent. In Kadi and Kheralu talukas also the extent of urbanisation is low (15.51 per cent and 16.14 per cent respectively).

Gandhinagar is a single-taluka district where 11.99 per cent of the population is urban.

As we have seen earlier urbanisation is highest in Ahmadabad district. The district consists of seven talukas all of which are urbanised in varying degrees and share the 21 towns of the district. 66.86 per cent of the district

population is urban. Urbanisation is highest in Ahmadabad City taluka where 97.66 per cent of the population is urban and lowest in Daskroi taluka where only 2.83 per cent of the population is urban. No other taluka reaches the district level average. 23.05 per cent of the population of Dholka taluka, 22.31 per cent of Viramgam taluka and 20.55 per cent of Dhandhuka taluka is urban. Urbanisation in Dehgam, where 11.79 per cent of the population is urban, and in Sanand taluka with 16.76 per cent, is also quite low.

Matar taluka in Kheda district is entirely rural but the remaining nine talukas are urbanised and share the 17 towns in the district. 19.95 per cent of the population of the district is urban. The level of urbanisation in Cambay taluka is equal to the State level average of 28.08 per cent while that in Nadiad, Anand and Petlad talukas exceeds the district level figure. Nadiad taluka, with 31.57 per cent of its population being urban, is the most highly urbanised followed by Cambay taluka with 28.08 per cent, Anand taluka with 26.59 per cent and Petlad taluka with 20.43 per cent. Mehmedabad taluka with 19.02 per cent and Thasra taluka with 18.86 per cent nearly equal the district level average. The level of urbanisation in Borsad, Kapadvanj and Balasinor is, however, quite low.

Panch Mahals district has only nine towns. Urbanisation is restricted to seven out of the eleven talukas/mahals in the district and ranges from 3.45 per cent of the population in Santrampur taluka to 29.34 per cent in Dohad taluka. 24.82 per cent of the population of Godhra taluka is urban while the extent of urbanisation in all

the remaining talukas is quite low. In Halol taluka 16.77 per cent of the population is urban. The corresponding levels for Lunavada, Kalol, Devgad, Baria and Santrampur talukas are 10.12 per cent, 9.37 per cent, 6.03 per cent and 3.45 per cent respectively. Shehera, Jhalod and Limkheda talukas and Jambughoda mahal are entirely rural.

In Vadodara district four of the twelve talukas/mahals of the district are entirely rural. These are Savli, Jabugam, Nasvadi and Tilakwada. The remaining eight talukas share the twelve urban areas in the district and are all urbanised in varying degrees. With 30.46 per cent of its population being urban this district is among the more highly urbanised districts of the State. Urbanisation is highest in Vadodara taluka where 71.93 per cent of the population is urban. In all the remaining talukas having an urban population the extent of urbanisation is lower than the district level average. Only Dabhoi with 26.10 per cent of its population being urban can be said to be fairly well urbanised but the figures for the rest of the talukas are low. 15.25 per cent of the population of Sankheda taluka, 14.14 per cent of population of Padra taluka, 14.73 per cent of Sinor taluka, 10.43 per cent of Karjan taluka, 8.46 per cent of Vaghodia taluka and 7.58 per cent of Chhota Udaipur taluka is urban.

Five out of the 11 talukas/mahals in Bharuch district are entirely rural. These are Vagra, Jhagadia, Dediapada, Sagbara and Valia. The remaining six talukas/mahals share the seven urban areas of the district, thus averaging about one town per taluka/mahal. 17.39 per cent of the population of the district is urban and this urban

population is restricted to Bharuch, Anklesvar, Jambusar, Amod and Nandod talukas and Hansot mahal. Urbanisation is highest in Bharuch taluka where 44.11 per cent of the population is urban. In no other taluka/mahal except Anklesvar does the extent of urbanisation reach the district level average of 17.39 per cent, although Nandod taluka nearly touches this level. 26.95 per cent of the population of Anklesvar taluka and 17.38 per cent of Nandod taluka is urban. There is not much difference in the extent of urbanisation in respect of the three remaining talukas/mahals. In the case of Jambusar it is 17.28 per cent, in the case of Hansot it is 16.88 per cent and in the case of Amod it is 15.33 per cent.

Surat district has only eleven towns between its thirteen talukas and yet it is one of the most highly urbanised districts of the State. 33.73 per cent of the population of this district is urban but the urban population is restricted to only eight talukas. Uchhal, Nizar and Mahuva talukas and Valod and Palsana mahals are entirely rural. From among the remaining eight talukas Chorasi taluka which includes Surat City, is the most highly urbanised with 76.34 per cent of its population being urban. This is followed by Songadh taluka (which includes the Ukai Project area), with 28.48 per cent. The next in order of rank is Bardoli taluka with 16.04 per cent, Vyara taluka with 12.32 per cent and Kamrej taluka with 10.43 per cent. Urbanisation in Mandvi, Olpad and Mangrol talukas is quite low (8.58 per cent, 6.40 per cent and 5.98 per cent respectively).

Finally, we come to Valsad district. The level of urbanisation in this district is low compared to the State level average. Only 17.95 per cent of the population of

the district is urban and the extent of urbanisation in the talukas ranges from 2.84 per cent to 30.29 per cent. Urbanisation is highest in Valsad taluka where 30.29 per cent of the population is urban and lowest in Chikhli taluka where only 2.84 per cent of the population is urban. Navsari taluka with 28.98 per cent and Gandevi taluka with 28.94 per cent of their respective populations being urban come quite close to the level of urbanisation in Valsad taluka. Urbanisation in the remaining talukas is quite low except in the case of Pardi taluka where 18.93 per cent of the population is urban. The figures for Umbergaon, Dharampur and Bansda talukas are 6.65 per cent, 6.17 per cent and 5.89 per cent respectively.

From this detailed coverage by individual district the pattern of urbanisation at the taluka level for the State as a whole may not be entirely clear. It would be helpful therefore to see the distribution of the talukas as a whole according to broad ranges of urbanisation.

There are only 11 talukas in the State where 50% or more of the population is urban. These are Jamnagar, Okhamandal, Rajkot, Dhoraji, Wadhwan, Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Anjar, Ahmadabad City taluka, Vadodara and Chorasi talukas. In seven talukas of the State the percentage of the urban population ranges from 35.00 per cent to 49.99 per cent. These are Jetpur, Dhrangadhra, Botad, Patan-Veraval, Porbandar, Bhuj and Bharuch talukas. In the majority of the talukas/mahals, however, the percentage of the urban population ranges from 5 per cent to 34.99 per cent. In three talukas, viz., those of Daskroi, Santrampur and Chikhli, less than 5 per cent of the population of each is urban. In 46 talukas/mahals

of the State the percentage of the urban population to the total taluka population ranges from 5 per cent to 14.99 per cent of the taluka population. In 49 talukas/mahals the range is from 15.00 per cent to 24.99 per cent. 27 talukas fall in the range of 25.00 per cent to 34.99 per cent. As has already been mentioned before, 41 talukas/mahals are entirely rural. Going a stage further we may lastly summarize that out of the 184 talukas/mahals of the State 41 are entirely rural, three have an urban population of less than 5 per cent, 93 have an urban population ranging from 5 per cent to 24.99 per cent, 27 have an urban population ranging from 25.00 per cent to 34.99 per cent, seven have an urban population ranging from 35.00 per cent to 49.99 per cent and eleven have an urban population ranging from 50.00 per cent to 99.99 per cent of the total population of the taluka.

We have earlier seen the distribution of the towns of Gujarat according to size classification and have noted this distribution as follows :

STATEMENT III.3

Distribution of towns by population range classification, 1971

Class	Population ranges	No. of towns in this range
I	1,00,000+	7
II	50,000 to 99,999	18
III	20,000 to 49,999	42
IV	10,000 to 19,999	73
V	5,000 to 9,999	71
VI	Below 5,000	5
Total		216

We have also observed that the size of these urban centres may be one index of the quality of urbanisation in the State. At this point we may, therefore, also see the proportion of urban population accounted for by each size class of towns. 45.10 per cent of the total urban population in the State is living in the seven class I towns. This means that 45 out of every 100 persons living in the urban areas of the State live in one or other of the seven cities in the State whose population exceeds one lakh. 15.66 per cent of the urban population is living in the class II towns and a slightly higher proportion 17.72 per cent in the 42 class III towns the proportion of the population living in the class IV towns is slightly lower than that of the population living in class II towns. 14.04 per cent of the urban population lives in the 73 class IV towns in the State. There are 71 class V towns where only 7.20 per cent of the urban population lives. Lastly, only 0.28 per cent of the urban population is found to be living in the 5 class VI towns in the State. Thus we see that by far the largest proportion of the urban population is concentrated in class I towns. The next largest proportion is found to be living in the class III towns. The proportion of the population living in the class II towns and in the class IV towns is not very widely separated while the proportion of the urban population in the lowest class of towns is indeed very low.

A related question that also arises is as to whether these towns have been growing or have tended to stagnate. It would generally be true that if these towns have been dynamic urban centres in the best sense then they would naturally be growing at a steady pace. But if, on the other hand, they have been unable to be dynamic and

self-sustaining units then stagnation would naturally set in and the towns deteriorate and cease to grow. In order that a meaningful pattern may emerge out of any such examination of the growth rate of the urban centres according to size class we will therefore look at the subject from 1901. In 1901 the number of towns in classes I to VI was 3, 2, 12, 41, 61 and 47 respectively, giving a total of 166 towns. In 1911 the number of towns fell to 155 thereby registering a fall in the number of urban areas. The number of towns in the various classes from class I to VI in 1911 was 2, 2, 13, 32, 59 and 47 respectively. The number of cities in class I fell from 3 in 1901 to 2 in 1911, that of class IV towns fell from 42 to 32 and that of class V towns fell from 61 to 59. The number of towns in class II, however, remained steady at 2 and of those in class VI also remained steady at 47. There was thus a decline in the urban population by 7.09 per cent over this decade. Though the population in class II towns increased by 41.96 per cent and that of the class III towns by 8.45 per cent there was a steep decline in the population of class I towns (—18.28 per cent) and class IV towns (—22.20 per cent). The population of class V and class VI towns also fell, by 2.14 per cent in the case of the former and 5.81 per cent in the case of the later. Ten years later there was a considerable improvement in this regard when the Census of 1921 was taken. The total number of towns went back to level obtaining in 1901 and the overall population in the urban areas increased over the decade by 8.67 per cent. The number of towns in class I and class II remained the same but the trend noticed in 1911 in respect of growth rate in towns of these two classes reversed itself in 1921. In 1911 class I towns had registered a fall

in population by 18.28 per cent. In 1921 these towns registered an increase by 18.03 per cent. On the other hand, where in 1911 the class II towns had registered an increase of 41.96 per cent, they registered a decrease of 3.44 per cent in 1921. Similarly, the class III towns which, in 1911, had registered an increase of 8.45 per cent, registered a decrease of 0.13 per cent in 1921. Continuing the reversal of trend, the towns in class IV, V and VI all of which had registered a decrease in 1911, now registered an increase in 1921. The towns in these three classes registered a growth rate of 16.15 per cent, 4.94 per cent and 10.52 per cent respectively. At all the subsequent Censuses from 1931 to 1971 the towns in all the classes except class VI registered consistent growth with the other exception of towns of class IV where growth registered a decline of 8.57 per cent in 1951, and class V towns where the decline was to the tune of 46.57 in 1961.

From this it can be seen that by and large the growth rate in the various urban centres has tended to be erratic upto 1921 but in most cases it thereafter stabilised from 1931 onwards. It can also be seen that towns in category VI have consistently registered a decline from 1931 onwards and have therefore tended to be incapable of supporting themselves from that period.

Another index of the growth of urbanisation would be the increase in the number of towns from time to time. The total number of towns has gone up from 166 in 1901 to 216 in 1971. This number had briefly shown a decline of 11 in 1911 and 62 in 1961. But by and large urbanisation has been on the increase progressively through the decades. The growth of urbanisation in terms of the

increase in the number of urban centres may be seen from the following table which lists the total number of towns in the various categories from 1901 to 1971.

STATEMENT III.4

Distribution of towns by population range classification from 1901 to 1971

Year	No. of towns by classes						Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	
1901	3	2	12	41	61	47	166
1911	2	2	13	32	59	47	115
1921	2	2	12	36	61	53	166
1931	2	3	19	39	71	38	172
1941	4	4	24	43	78	38	191
1951	6	4	35	42	124	32	243
1961	6	9	43	54	60	9	181
1971	7	18	42	73	71	5	216

From the above certain trends are noticeable. In overall terms, the number of urban centres has shown a distinct overall tendency towards increase from 1901 to 1971 although there is a fall in 1911 and 1961. In general, however, the tendency has been towards growth in the number of urban centres. It will also be noticed that by and large there has also been a tendency towards growth in the number of towns in the various classes, although this is not always consistent. The increase in the number of class I towns has been slow but steady from 1911. The same is also true in respect of class II towns. Among the class III towns, however, the picture is not so stable. There were 12 class III towns in 1901. 1911

marked an increase of 1 and the next decade shows the position reverting to the one existing in 1901. From 1931, however, the increase in the number of towns in class III has been steady, although at the latest Census there is again a decrease of one. The picture in respect of class IV towns has been even more unsteady. There were 41 towns of class IV in 1901 which were reduced to 32 in 1911. For the next three decades this number steadily increased until it fell by one in 1951. From 1961, however, the trend towards increase has been reasserted and the increase in the number of towns in class IV from 1961 to 1971 has been particularly steep. The same erratic pattern displays itself in respect of class V towns. There were 61 such towns in 1901 and 1921 and 59 in the intervening decadal year of 1911. Thereafter, for the succeeding decades, the number of towns in class V has shown a consistent tendency to increase. The increase between 1951 and 1961 has been particularly steep from 78 to 124. In the last two decades, however, the pattern has again been disturbed. In 1961 the number fell steeply from the 124 of 1951 to 60 and has thereafter again gone up to 71 in 1971. As against this general overall tendency towards increase, towns in class VI have, on the other hand, displayed a more or less consistent tendency towards decrease. Only in 1921 has there been an increase. In all other years there has been a decrease from the previous decadal year.

We see therefore that towns under class I have tended to grow at a slow but steady pace while those in class VI have tended to decrease equally steadily. In the intervening classes growth in numbers has been most consistent in respect of towns of classes II and III, though it is noticed

that the higher the class the slower the growth in numbers. In respect of towns of classes IV and V, however, the picture is very unsteady and the pattern of increase or decrease in the number of towns in these two classes has not always been consistent.

We may conclude our coverage of this point by seeing the pattern of increase or decrease in the population size of our cities and the ten largest towns. Gujarat has seven cities which, in order of rank according to population size, are Ahmadabad, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar and Nadiad. The ten largest urban centres after these cities are, in order of rank, Porbandar and Junagadh towns in Junagadh district, Bharuch town in Bharuch district, Navsari town in Valsad district, Godhra town in Panch Mahals district, Surendranagar town in Surendranagar district, Patan in Mahesana district, Cambay in Kheda district and Morvi and Dhoraji in Rajkot district. We know from available figures that each of these cities and towns has registered a growth rate at all the decadal Censuses since 1931 with the exception of Surat city which recorded a decrease in population by 13.05 per cent in 1931, Bharuch town which recorded a decrease of 19.63 per cent in the same year and Godhra, which recorded a decrease of 3.60 per cent in 1951. Apart from these exceptions all the above cities and towns have registered growth at all the Censuses from 1931 to 1971. In the two decadal Censuses before 1931 the picture has been uneven. At the 1911 Census all these cities and towns recorded a decrease in varying degrees except Bhavnagar and Ahmadabad cities and Junagadh, Porbandar, Godhra and Bharuch towns. In 1921 the number of cities and towns recording growth went up from six in 1911

to nine in 1921. The cities and towns not recording deficit in 1921 are Ahmadabad, Rajkot and Surat cities and Dhoraji, Surendranagar, Porbandar, Godhra and Navsari towns. During the decade there was no change in the case of Ahmadabad City and Porbandar and Godhra towns. All these three areas recorded a growth at both 1911 and 1921. On the other hand, Rajkot, Nadiad and Surat cities and Dhoraji, Surendranagar and Navsari towns which have shown a decline in 1911 over 1901 showed an increase in 1921 over 1911. Conversely, Bhavnagar city and Junagadh and Bharuch towns, which have shown growth in 1911 over 1901 showed, in 1921, a deficit over 1911.

In Gujarat such urban agglomerations have been recognised in several districts. In Jamnagar, portions of the outgrowth of Jamnagar town, the railway colony, the port area and the Bedi village Panchayat have been agglomerated with Jamnagar town and the population of this agglomeration has been treated as forming the population of the Jamnagar urban agglomeration. In Rajkot district there are three agglomerations, viz., those of Gondal, Jetpur and Dhoraji. In the case of each it is the outgrowth of each town which has been agglomerated with the main town and treated as the respective urban agglomeration. In Surendranagar the areas of Wadhwan and Surendranagar municipalities have been treated as a single urban agglomeration and have been described as the Wadhwan urban agglomeration. In the same district the outgrowth of Limbdi municipality has been agglomerated with Limbdi town to constitute the Limbdi urban agglomeration. Three urban agglomerations have been formed in Bhavnagar district. A part of Ruva village has been agglomerated

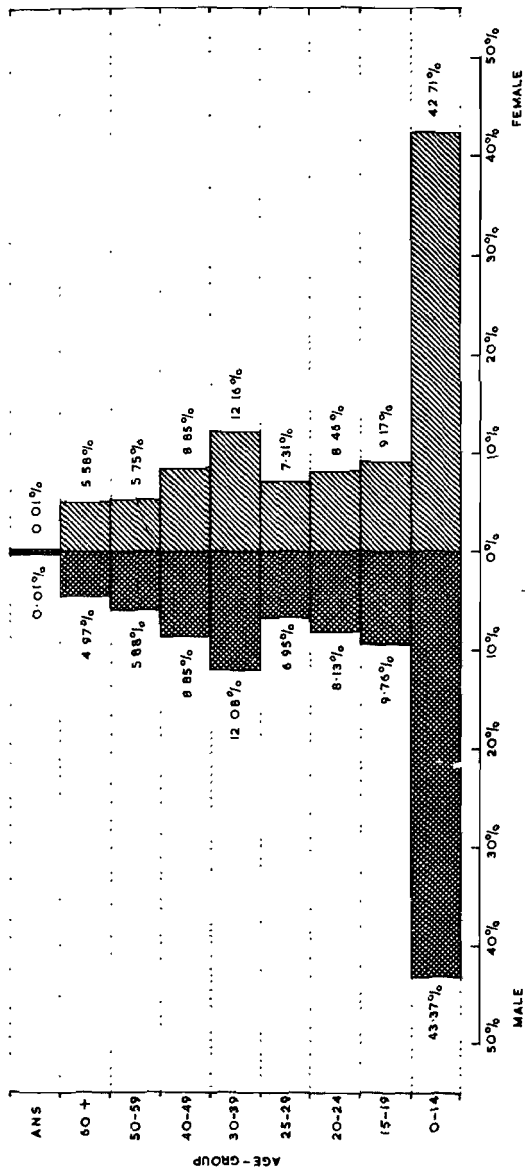
with Bhavnagar municipality to form the Bhavnagar urban agglomeration. At other places the growth beyond the statutory limits of the local body projecting into the revenue limits of the same town has also been recognised as an agglomeration. The outgrowth of Mahuva municipality has been agglomerated with the Mahuva municipal area to form the Mahuva urban agglomeration. The same has been done in the case of Savarkundla to form the Savarkundla urban agglomeration. Similar treatment has also been meted out to the outgrowth of Amreli municipality, which has been agglomerated with Amreli municipal area to form the Amreli urban agglomeration. The same has also been done in the case of Junagadh town and its outgrowth and Mangrol town and its outgrowth. The Patan-Veraval municipalities have also been treated as forming a single urban agglomeration, viz., the Patan urban agglomeration. Chhaya Village Panchayat has been agglomerated with Porbandar municipal area to form the Porbandar urban agglomeration. In Kutch district, the outgrowth of Bhuj town has been agglomerated with the Bhuj municipal area and the railway colony in Gandhidham has been agglomerated with the Gandhidham municipality to constitute the Bhuj and Gandhidham urban agglomerations respectively. In Sabar Kantha district, Jawanpura village has been agglomerated with the Idar Nagar Panchayat area to form the Idar urban agglomeration. There are three agglomerations in Mahesana. In each instance it is a case of the outgrowth of the main town beyond its statutory limits either into the revenue limits of the same town or the limits of the adjoining town or village. The outgrowth of Mahesana, Kadi and Sidhpur towns have in this manner been beyond their statutory

limits but within revenue limits of Mahesana, Kadi and Sidhpur respectively. The extensive outgrowth of Ahmadabad city into the limits of the neighbouring towns and villages has resulted into a vast agglomeration. The Ahmadabad urban agglomeration consists of the statutory limits of the Ahmadabad Municipal Corporation plus the villages of Asarwa, Rakhial, Rajpur-Hirpur, Bagefardosh and Khokhra-Mehmedabad, the Sardarnagar notified area, Ahmadabad cantonment, the Nagar Panchayat areas of Sahijpur Bhoga and Naroda and the village panchayat areas of Odhav, Ranip and Dani-Limbda. In terms of population this has resulted into a total of more than million and a half. The population of Ahmadabad Municipal Corporation area alone is 1,585,544. However, the population of the Ahmadabad urban agglomeration as a whole is 1,741,522. In Kheda district, a part of Rakhial village has been agglomerated with Dakor Nagar Panchayat area to form the Dakor urban agglomeration. Agglomerations have been similarly formed in respect of Godhra and Dohad in Panch Mahals district. A part of Jafrabad village has been agglomerated with Godhra municipality to form the Godhra urban agglomeration. Similarly, the Freelandganj Railway Colony and Dohad outgrowth have been agglomerated with the Dohad municipal area to form the Dohad urban agglomeration. In Vadodara district, a part of Makarpura village has been agglomerated with the Vadodara Municipal Corporation area and the outgrowth of Padra has been agglomerated with the Padra Nagar Panchayat area to form the Vadodara urban agglomeration and the Padra urban agglomeration respectively. In Bharuch, the outgrowths of Bharuch municipal area and Anklesvar area have been agglomerated with the two

parent municipal areas to form the Bharuch and Anklesvar urban agglomerations respectively. The Surat urban agglomeration is constituted of the Surat Municipal Corporation and the Katargam and Udhana village panchayats. Finally, there are three urban agglomerations in Valsad district, viz., the Valsad, Bilimora and Navsari urban agglomerations. The Valsad urban agglomeration consists of Valsad municipal area and its outgrowth, Bhagada Khurd, Pardi Sondhpur and Mogarvadi villages, a part of Nanakvada village and the Abrama village panchayat areas. The Bilimora municipality and its outgrowth and a part of Desera village constitute the Bilimora urban agglomeration. The Navsari urban agglomeration consists of Navsari municipality and the area under Jalalpore village panchayat.

With this we may now conclude this chapter. The urban rural differentials in sex ratio, age structure, literacy and lingual and religious composition will be brought out in the succeeding chapters.

SEX AND AGE-STRUCTURE, GUJARAT CENSUS, 1971



CHAPTER IV

THE PROPORTION OF MEN AND WOMEN AND THE AGE OF THE POPULATION

IN ANY examination of the population such as the present one, an enquiry into the proportion of men to women and the age of the population is always an essential and relevant one. The population of any country is as much a resource as something to be provided for. It reflects on the quality of the population as a resource as well as a quantum to be provided for as to what is the division of that population according to sex and in different age-groups. For example, in planning for provision for certain types of employment where only males can work, we would essentially have to be guided by our resources in the male population in particular age-groups only. At a further stage in this, it is equally important to know the age structure of that population. For example if we were planning for the provision of primary schools or child welfare centres and such other facilities and amenities catering only to the very young population, any plans that we might make would necessarily have to be guided by the size of the population in the relevant age-group. Here we shall have to see not only the population in that age-group at the given point of time but also its projected size upto such future date by which the concerned plan is likely to be fulfilled. Therefore, in this chapter we will examine the proportion of men to women in our population as well as the break up of the population according to different ages.

First let us see how the population stands in the matter of sex ratio. The term 'sex ratio' is now commonly applied with reference to the proportion of women to men. The method of representing this proportion is always in terms of a given number of women per 1000 men. That is to say that if, for example, the sex ratio in a certain area is stated to be, say, 950, it means that for every 1000 male persons in the population of that area, there are 950 females. Nature had intended that the strength of male and female members should be more or less equal. In actual practice, it seldom works so perfectly and imbalances in the sexes lead to several social problems. These imbalances are, however, unavoidable since the sex ratio manages to get disturbed due to such factors as migration, war, sex selectivity in certain types of mortality, (e.g., maternal mortality) and such other reasons. What this means is that, if there was to be a major war involving the population of any given area, it would invariably be the male population of that area which would be mostly involved in the war and would suffer the losses in human life resulting from it. As a consequence, the proportion of men to women after the war would be quite different than what it was before the war. The tilt after such an event would be towards an increase in the proportion of females to males. Migration is another such factor. We will see later on that in Kutch district, there are 1012 women to every 1000 male persons in the population. This has been a peculiar feature of Kutch district for quite some time now and is accounted for by the fact that large number of the male population in the district tends to migrate outside the district for earning a livelihood, leaving the women and children behind to look after their

homes. This tilts the balance in favour of the women, who are always returned in larger numbers than the men in this district at every census. Here the particular feature in the sex ratio pointed out above is accounted for largely by the fact of migration of the male population. The sex ratio again gets disturbed on account of certain types of mortality. When we speak of selective mortality what we mean is that in certain types of cases death affects only certain types of people. Therefore, mortality in such cases is selective. This kind of selective mortality is also responsible for effecting the sex ratio. You can appreciate how this is so if it is made clear, for example, that the numbers of women can tend to be reduced while that of men remains stable because the phenomenon of death in the course of child birth is peculiar only to women.

You can therefore appreciate that while it would be desirable to have as perfect a balance as possible between the numbers of men and women, it is not always so and that the ratio between the two sexes which we are discussing as sex ratio frequently gets disturbed. You can also appreciate that when such a disturbance exists the imbalance between the sexes can lead to quite a few social problems. It should not be difficult to understand what these social problems can be. You can quite easily see that if, for example, in any place the number of women was much larger than the number of men then it would obviously be difficult for a given section of the female population to marry and raise homes and settle down domestically and socially. In such cases, the solution is either that marriage in a large number of cases is to take place outside the immediate regions concerned or that the male population must succumb to the practice of one person

having more than one wife. If the opposite were to happen, the problems arising out of this situation would not be too dissimilar in nature.

With this general background, let us now proceed to specific facts and figures. The sex ratio or the number of women to 1000 men at the all India level is 930. This means that for every 1000 males in the country there are 930 females. There is thus an imbalance of the kind that we have already discussed. This pattern is repeated in all the States, except the State of Kerala and the Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli. In these two cases the imbalance between the sexes is in the reverse direction. In Kerala, the sex ratio is 1016. That is to say that for every 1000 male persons in Kerala State there are 1016 females, thus the females outnumbering the males by 16 per every 1000 of male population. In the case of Dadra and Nagar Haveli the sex ratio is 1007, which means that for every 1000 male persons in these territories there are 1007 females. In all other cases the sex ratio is imbalanced, and the proportion of women is invariably less than that of men. The sex ratio at the national level is 930 as we have already seen. In the case of Assam, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Nagaland, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh and Delhi, it is well below that level. The sex ratio in Assam is 897, that in Haryana 867, in Jammu & Kashmir 878, in Nagaland 871, in Punjab 865, in Uttar Pradesh 879, in West Bengal 891, in Arunachal Pradesh 861 and in Delhi Union Territory 801. It is just below the national average in the case of Rajasthan, which has a sex ratio of 911, and just above the national average in

the case of Gujarat, which has a sex ratio of 934. Maharashtra, where the sex ratio is 930, exactly equals the national average. All the remaining States have a sex ratio above the national average. It is 977 in Andhra Pradesh, 954 in Bihar, 958 in Himachal Pradesh, 941 in Madhya Pradesh and 980 in Manipur. In Meghalaya the sex ratio is 942, in Mysore 957, in Orissa 988, in Tamil Nadu 978, in Tripura 943, in the Union Territories of Goa, Daman and Diu, 989, in the Laccadive, Minicoy & Amindivi Islands 978 and in Pondicherry 989.

As we have already seen above, the sex ratio of the population of Gujarat is 934 which is just above the national average of 930. From the figures cited in the case of all the other States and Union Territories, it will also be seen that the sex ratio in the case of 12 States and 4 Union Territories is higher than that of Gujarat, while, in the case of 9 States and 4 Union Territories it is less than that of Gujarat. The cases of Kerala and Dadra and Nagar Haveli are, of course, unique examples and do not offer scope for comparison with Gujarat. How does the sex ratio in our State and other States of India compare with that obtaining in some other countries? We have earlier taken the cases of Argentina, Cuba, Ghana, Syria, Guyana, Japan and Poland for comparative purposes. We may do so here again for the same purpose. The sex ratio in Ghana, Guyana and Poland is 978, 1007 and 1058 respectively. The sex ratio is 1037 for Japan, 1052 for France and 1118 for Germany, 1069 for United Kingdom. In Argentina which, as we have seen, has an area about thirteen times larger than that of Gujarat and a population which is 12.48% less than that of our State, the sex ratio is 986. In the case of Cuba, the sex ratio is 955 : 1000.

In Syria also it is 951. Both Japan and Mexico, on the other hand, are examples of the extreme and reverse kind of imbalance that we had observed in the case of Kerala and Dadra & Nagar Haveli. The sex ratio in respect of the population of Japan is 1037 and that in respect of the population of Mexico is 1004. This comparative examination of the sex ratio of some other countries can however at best serve only a limited purpose. The comparison cannot be stretched too far since conditions differ from place to place and the factors affecting the sex ratio will seldom be the same.

What can be said about the sex ratio observed in our State? To draw any conclusion would be hazardous. All that can be said is that, after Maharashtra, where the sex ratio is exactly the same as that obtaining at the national level, Gujarat is the closest to the national average.

Let us next examine the sex ratio obtaining in the various districts of the State. We have already seen that the sex ratio at the State level is 934. Junagadh district with a sex ratio of 936 comes the closest to the State average. Both Surendranagar and Banas Kantha have a sex ratio of 941, while Jamnagar ranks next with 942. In Bhavnagar it is 945, and in Rajkot, 947. The sex ratio in Amreli and Mahesana is comparably higher with 956 in the case of the former and 958 in the case of the latter. Sabar Kantha, with 965, is even better placed. The closest is Valsad district where the sex ratio is 997 just three short of the balance of 1000 : 1000. In the Dangs district it is 946, nearly equal to the sex ratio in Surat, where it is 947 and that in Bhavnagar, where it is 945. In Panch Mahals it is 944 and, in Bharuch, 950. In the districts

of Gandhinagar, Ahmadabad, Kheda and Vadodara, the sex ratio is less than the State average. The lowest is in the case of Ahmadabad, where it is 866, followed by Kheda where it is 894. Vadodara has a sex ratio of 901 and Gandhinagar 927. It is interesting to note that the sex ratio in both Ahmadabad and Kheda districts is among the lowest in the State and that these two districts are also, at the same time, among the most prosperous in the State. The case of Kutch district is of course unique. Here the number of women outnumber the number of men by 12 women per every 1000 men. The sex ratio in Kutch is therefore 1012.

The sex ratio ranged at the level of the talukas of the various districts also offers some interesting features. Of course, it stands to reason that in most cases this will not vary too much from the State or district average.

(1) *Jamnagar district* :—The district level sex ratio in Jamnagar district is 942. The population of the talukas of Lalpur (951), Bhanvad (943), Khambhalia (964,) Dhrol (965) and Kalavad (959), has a sex ratio above the district level average. Jodiya taluka is one of those rare cases where the sex ratio is tilted towards the female population. In the case of this taluka the sex ratio is 1003. In all the remaining four talukas in the district the sex ratio is below the district level average. It is 918 in Jamnagar taluka, 938 in Jam-Jodhpur taluka, 937 in Kalyanpur taluka, and 935 in Okhamandal taluka.

(2) *Rajkot district*:—The district average in Rajkot district is higher than that in Jamnagar district. The sex ratio in the district as a whole is 947. Eight of the 13 talukas/mahals in the district have a sex ratio higher

than the district level average. In some of these cases it is even quite close to being equal for both sexes. In Paddhari mahal, for example, the sex ratio is 973 and that in Maliya taluka it is 962. In Wankaner taluka it is 955, in Morvi 950, in Lodhika mahal 959, in Upleta taluka 968, in Dhoraji taluka 985, and in Kotda Sangani mahal 948. In all the remaining talukas and mahals the sex ratio is less than the district level average. It is 939 in Jasdan, 943 in both Gondal and Jetpur talukas, 946 in Jam-Kandorna mahal and 925 in Rajkot taluka.

(3) *Surendranagar district*:—Only in the case of Sayla, Chotila, Muli and Dhrangadhra talukas is the sex ratio below the district level average of 941. It is 922 in Sayla, 928 in Chotila, 935 in Muli and 933 in Dhrangadhra. In all the remaining talukas of the district the sex ratio is higher than the district level average. Wadhwan taluka has a sex ratio of 947, Limbdi taluka of 948, Halvad taluka of 945, Dasada taluka of 944 and Lakhtar taluka of 959.

(4) *Bhavnagar district*:—The sex ratio in Bhavnagar district is higher than that in both Jamnagar and Surendranagar districts but just lower than that of Rajkot district. The district level figure for Bhavnagar district is 945, just higher than the State level average also. The sex ratio of Botad taluka is exactly the same as that obtaining at the district level. In the case of Sihor and Bhavnagar talukas it is less than the district level average. Sihor has a sex ratio of 929 and Bhavnagar taluka of 915. In the rest of the talukas the sex ratio in each case is more than the district level average and the figures for the individual talukas that remain are as follows:—

Ghogha mahal, 947; Talaja taluka, 949; Kundla taluka, 952; Gariadhar, 992; Palitana, 948; Umralla

taluka, 966; Gadhada taluka, 957; Botad taluka, 945; Vallabhipur taluka, 982.

(5) *Amreli district*:—The sex ratio in Amreli district (956) is higher than that in Jamnagar, Rajkot, Surendranagar and Bhavnagar as also than that of Junagadh, Banas Kantha, Gandhinagar, Ahmadabad, Kheda, Panch Mahals, Vadodara, Bharuch, Surat and The Dangs districts. Thus it is the highest among the districts of the State. More than half the talukas/mahals of the district, however, have a sex ratio less than the district level average. These are the talukas of Amreli (947), Rajula (942), Kodinar (949), Kunkavav-Vadia (955), Babra (951) and Khambha mahal (950). In the rest of the talukas/mahals the sex ratio is as follows:—

Dhari, 957; Jafrabad mahal, 970; Lathi taluka, 983; and Lilia mahal, 991.

(6) *Junagadh district*:—The district level average for Junagadh is 936, which is quite close to the State level average. More than half the talukas have a sex ratio higher than the district level average while the remaining six talukas/mahals have a sex ratio lower than the district average. The sex ratio of each of the talukas/mahals in Junagadh district is as follows:—

Junagadh taluka, 913; Mendarda mahal, 921; Talala taluka, 945; Patan-Veraval, 945; Malia, 937; Mangrol, 943; Keshod, 921; Porbandar 953; Ranavav, 945; Kutiyana, 956; Manavadar, 941; Vanthali, 937; Bhesan mahal, 924; Visavadar taluka, 924; and Una taluka, 931.

(7) *Kutch district*:—Kutch district, as we have already seen, is a unique case in Gujarat where the sex ratio is tilted in favour of the female population. The sex ratio in the district as a whole is 1012. That is to say that the number of women outnumber the number of men to the extent of 12 women per every 1000 men. This pattern repeats in the case of five talukas of Mundra, Mandvi, Abdasa, Lakhpat and Nakhatrana talukas, where the sex ratio is 1121, 1089, 1088, 1003 and 1111 respectively. The excess of females over males is particularly high in the case of Mandvi and Abdasa talukas. In the remaining talukas the sex ratio approximates more closely with the general trend. Bhuj taluka has a sex ratio of 978, Rapar of 947, Bhachau taluka of 982 and Anjar taluka of 924.

(8) *Banas Kantha district*:—The district level average for Banas Kantha district is 941. However, the majority of the talukas in the district have a sex ratio which is below the district level average. Only Palanpur, Vadgam and Radhanpur talukas have a sex ratio higher than the district level average. The sex ratio in the case of these three talukas is 957, 983 and 953 respectively. Both Deesa and Kankrej talukas have a sex ratio of 935 and both Vav and Danta of 932. It is 927 in the case of Deodar taluka, 928 in the case of Santalpur taluka and 913 in the case of Dhanera taluka.

(9) *Sabar Kantha district*:—Apart from Kutch district and the southern districts of Surat, Valsad and Bharuch and the isolated example of Jodiya taluka in Jamnagar district, Sabar Kantha district is the only other example in the State where there are cases of the number of women outnumbering that of men. The sex ratio in the population

of Vijaynagar mahal is 1061. In Bhiloda taluka the sex ratio is 1000 and therefore the proportion of males and females is exactly equal here. The sex ratio at the level of the district is 965. Only in the case of Himatnagar and Idar talukas is the sex ratio higher than this average, that in the case of Himatnagar being 970 and that in the case of Idar taluka being 989. In all the other talukas except the four already discussed, the sex ratio is lower than the district level average and is as follows:

Prantij taluka, 956; Khed Brahma, 952; Meghraj taluka, 954; Modasa, 936; Malpur mahal, 922 and, Bayad taluka, 940.

(10) *Mahesana district*:—The sex ratio in Mahesana district is among the highest in the State and is 958 though it is 1012 in Kutch. Chanasma taluka with 974, Sidhpur with 990, Kheralu with 969, Visnagar with 970 and Vijapur with 980 have a sex ratio higher than the district average. Mahesana taluka itself has only 935 females per 1000 males. The sex ratio in Kadi taluka is 942, that in Sami and Harij talukas is 938 and 919 respectively and that in Kadi taluka is 916.

(11) *Gandhinagar and The Dangs districts*:—Both Gandhinagar and The Dangs districts are single-taluka districts. The sex ratio in Gandhinagar district is 927, which is lower than the State level average, and that in The Dangs district is 946.

(12) *Ahmadabad and Kheda districts*:—We have already seen that though Ahmadabad and Kheda are among the most prosperous districts in the State, they also at the same time have among the lowest sex ratios among the

districts of the State. Only Dhandhuka and Viramgam talukas in Ahmadabad district, with a sex ratio of 955 and 942 respectively, and Balasinor taluka in Kheda district, have a sex ratio higher than the State level average. All the remaining talukas in both the districts have a sex ratio lower than the State level average. The taluka wise sex ratio in these two districts is as follows:

STATEMENT IV.1

Talukawise sex ratio of Ahmadabad and Kheda districts

<i>Ahmadabad district</i>	866
(1) Ahmadabad City taluka	831
(2) Daskroi taluka	900
(3) Dholka taluka	912
(4) Dhandhuka taluka	955
(5) Sanand taluka	918
(6) Viramgam taluka	942
(7) Dehgam taluka	931
<i>Kheda district</i>	894
(1) Mehmedabad taluka	914
(2) Nadiad taluka	886
(3) Anand taluka	863
(4) Petlad taluka	885
(5) Borsad taluka	884
(6) Cambay taluka	900
(7) Matar taluka	892
(8) Kapadvanj taluka	927
(9) Balasinor taluka	942
(10) Thasra taluka	901

(13) *Panch Mahals district*:—Panch Mahals district has a sex ratio higher than the State level average and majority of the talukas in the district have a sex ratio higher than the district level average. The sex ratio

in the district as a whole is 944. Only in the case of Godhra-Kalol, Halol and Shehera talukas is the sex ratio lower than this. It is 917 in Godhra taluka, 935 in Kalol taluka, 932 in Halol taluka and 909 in Shehera taluka. In all the remaining talukas the sex ratio is higher than the district level average and the talukawise figures are as follows:

Lunavada, 947; Santrampur, 946; Jhalod, 960; Dohad and Limkheda talukas, 968; Devgad Baria, 943 and Jambughoda mahal, 945.

(14) *Vadodara and Bharuch districts*:—The talukawise sex ratio in the respect of the talukas of these two districts is as follows. The case of Sagbara taluka invites particular attention since this is one of the few units in the State where the sex ratio is not in conformity with the normal pattern.

STATEMENT IV. 2

Talukawise sex ratio of Vadodara and Bharuch districts

<i>Vadodara district</i>	<i>901</i>
(1) Vadodara taluka	857
(2) Karjan taluka	923
(3) Padra taluka	904
(4) Savli taluka	895
(5) Vaghodia taluka	920
(6) Dabhoi taluka	908
(7) Sankheda taluka	925
(8) Jabugam taluka	943
(9) Chhota Udaipur taluka	955
(10) Nasvadi taluka	953
(11) Tilakwada mahal	920
(12) Sinor taluka	928

<i>Bharuch district</i>	950
(1) Bharuch taluka	931
(2) Anklesvar taluka	966
(3) Hansot mahal	986
(4) Vagra taluka	941
(5) Jambusar taluka	930
(6) Amod taluka	935
(7) Jhagadia taluka	951
(8) Nandod taluka	950
(9) Dediapada taluka	976
(10) Sagbara taluka	1,009
(11) Valia taluka	967

(15) *Surat and Valsad districts*:—Three talukas in each of these two districts again offer the unique feature where the proportion of females is higher than the proportion of males. The sex ratio in both Olpad and Nizar talukas of Surat district is 1006 and that in Mahuva taluka of the same district is 1007. In Valsad district, Umbergaon taluka has a sex ratio of 1051, Navsari taluka of 1004, and Chikhli taluka of 1027. The remaining talukas in both districts follow the normal pattern and the talukawise figures for the remaining talukas of these two districts are as follows:

STATEMENT IV.3

Talukawise sex ratio of Surat and Valsad districts

<i>Surat district</i>	947
(1) Chorasi taluka	901
(2) Kamrej taluka	989
(3) Mangrol taluka	975
(4) Mandvi taluka	975
(5) Songadh taluka	897
(6) Uchhal taluka	970

(7) Vyara taluka	.	.	.	.	.	.	976
(8) Valod mahal	.	.	.	.	.	.	983
(9) Bardoli taluka	.	.	.	.	.	.	973
(10) Palsana mahal	.	.	.	.	.	.	987
<i>Valsad district</i>							997
(1) Valsad taluka	.	.	.	.	.	.	977
(2) Pardi taluka	.	.	.	.	.	.	997
(3) Gandevi taluka	.	.	.	.	.	.	974
(4) Bansda taluka	.	.	.	.	.	.	996
(5) Dharampur taluka	.	.	.	.	.	.	970

The question whether there is any difference between the sex ratio in the rural areas on the one hand and the urban areas on the other is also one of interest. There is such a difference not only at the State level but also in the case of every district. Barring the case of Kutch and Valsad districts, where the proportion of the rural female population is higher than the rural male population, the sex ratio in the rural areas both at the State level as well as at the district level is in every case closer to the desirable ideal than is the case in the urban areas. The sex ratio at the State level in the rural population is 951 and that in the urban population is 893. At the district level the sex ratio of the rural population of Kutch and Valsad districts is tilted in the sense that the number of women outnumber the number of men. In Kutch district the sex ratio in the rural areas is 1037 and that in the urban areas is 944, while in Valsad district it is 1015 in the rural areas and 919 in the urban areas. In no case does the sex ratio in the urban areas of any district reach 950. On the other hand, the sex ratio of the rural population of 7 districts

exceeds 950. The sex ratio in the rural and the urban areas of these seven districts is as follows:

STATEMENT IV.4

Districts (excluding Kutch and Valsad districts) having rural sex ratio more than 950

Name of district	Sex Ratio	
	Rural	Urban
Rajkot	953	939
Bhavnagar	957	921
Amreli	961	939
Sabar Kantha	971	897
Mahesana	965	928
Bharuch	955	926
Surat	982	880

The sex ratio in respect of the rural and urban areas of the districts which have not been discussed so far, and with the exception of the Dangs district which has no urban population, is as follows:

STATEMENT IV.5

Districts (excluding the Dangs district) having rural sex ratio less than 950

Name of district	Sex Ratio	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
Jamnagar	948	932
Surendranagar	944	935
Junagadh	938	931
Banas Kantha	941	940
Gandhinagar	937	858
Ahmadabad	925	838

	1	2	3
Kheda		896	886
Panch Mahals		945	934
Vadodara		918	863

The fact that the sex ratio in the urban areas is invariably lower than the sex ratio in the rural areas leads to one further question, and that is whether it is true that the larger the urban area the lower is the sex ratio that obtains there. It is a line of enquiry which is worth pursuing, though it will not be possible for us to enquire into the reasons not only for the lower sex ratio in the urban areas but also the lower sex ratio in the larger urban areas than in the smaller ones should that be the case. Our enquiry would in any case reveal the latter case to be untrue. Urban areas, for the purpose of the Census, are generally divided into six classes according to the size of the population. It is not uncommon therefore to refer to towns and cities as being class I or II or IV or VI as the case may be. For our purpose it is enough to explain that the urban areas are divided according to the size of their population into six classes from class I to class VI. Gujarat has a total of 216 towns of which 7 are in class I, 18 in class II, 42 in class III, 73 in class IV, 71 in class V and 5 in class VI. The population ranges by which the towns or cities qualify for being placed in one or the other class are as follows:

	<i>Population Range</i>
Class I	100,000 and above
II	50,000 to 99,999
III	20,000 to 49,999
IV	10,000 to 19,999

	<i>Population Range</i>
Class V	5,000 to 9,999
VI	Less than 5,000

We will now examine the sex ratio obtaining in the urban centres of the various size classes or population ranges. The sex ratio in the seven class I Urban areas of the State is 862, while that in the 18 class II towns is 920, that in the 42 class III towns is 916, and in the 73 class IV towns it is 914. In the 71 class V towns of the State the sex ratio is 938, while that in the 5 class VI towns it is 917. Thus, while it is apparent that there is a great distance between the sex ratio in the class I towns on the one hand and all the other class of towns on the other the figures do not entirely corroborate the view that the higher the concentration of the population in the urban areas the lower would the sex ratio be.

Let us now sum up the various elements of the subject that we have so far discussed. We have seen that the sex ratio of the population of Gujarat is 934. We have also seen that, with the exception of Maharashtra where the sex ratio is 930, the same as the national average, the sex ratio of the population of Gujarat is the closest to the national average. There are not many States the population of which is closely comparable to that of Gujarat, but the population of Mysore, Orissa and Rajasthan States may be taken for the sake of comparison. The Gujarat population accounts for 4.87% of the total national population while that of Mysore accounts for 5.35% that of Orissa for 4.00% and that of Rajasthan for 4.70 per cent. Given these comparative sizes of the population of the four States, it may be worthwhile to compare

the sex ratios obtaining in each of these States. The sex ratio of the Gujarat population, as we have already seen, is 934 while that of Mysore population is 957, that in Orissa is 988 and that in Rajasthan in 911. We thus see that while Gujarat comes closest to the national average, the sex ratio in the population of Mysore and Orissa is more balanced than that in Gujarat. While Gujarat's own population is better off in this regard than the population of Rajasthan, at the district level the population in The Dangs, Valsad, Surat, Bharuch, Panch Mahals, Mahesana, Sabar Kantha, Banas Kantha, Kutch, Junagadh, Amreli, Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Rajkot and Jamnagar districts is better off in the matter of sex ratio than the general population of the State as a whole. We have seen the peculiar case of Kutch district, where the number of females outnumber the number of males, a pattern which repeats itself in the case of Jodiya taluka of Jamnagar district, Vijayanagar mahal and Bhiloda talukas of Sabar Kantha, Sagbara taluka of Bharuch district, Olpad, Nizar and Mahuva talukas of Surat district and Umbergaon, Navsari and Chikhli talukas of Valsad district. Finally, we have seen that the sex ratio is higher in the rural areas than that in the urban areas both at the State level as well as at the level of the individual district and that in the urban areas themselves it is generally higher in the smaller size class of towns, and particularly so when compared with towns of class I size. If we have avoided attempting definite conclusions as regards the reasons for these features, it is only because any such conclusion could at best be only hypothetical and would not be justified here merely on the basis of the raw and unsupported data available

Age Structure of the population

The other point for the examination of which we have reserved this chapter is the question of the age structure of the population. It has been explained how an enquiry into the sex ratio and the age structure of the population is essential and valid. It has also been explained how such an enquiry is helpful to the overall purpose of population studies and also how it is frequently a good index of the health of the population at the various stages of life.

Let us first examine the age structure of the population at the national level. For this purpose we will consider the population under four specific age-groups and a fifth which will account for that proportion of the population which did not specify its age during the Census. The percentage of the national population accounted for by these groups is as follows:

STATEMENT IV.6

Percentage distribution of population of India by broad age-groups, 1971

Age-Group (Years)	0-14	15-39	40-59	60+	Age not stated
Per cent of the population	42.02	36.57	15.42	5.97	0.02

As compared to this, the break-up of the population of Gujarat by the same five broad groups is as follows:

STATEMENT IV.7

Percentage distribution of population of Gujarat by broad age-groups, 1971

Age-Group (Years)	0-14	15-39	40-59	60+	Age not stated
Per cent of the population	43.05	37.01	14.67	5.26	0.01

Thus we see that the percentage of youthful population in Gujarat is slightly higher than the all India

average both in the 0-14 age-group and in the 15-39 age-group. But the proportion of the total population that falls in the next higher age-group of 40-59 years and 60 years and more is less in Gujarat than at the national level. The inferences that this suggest may include the possibility that the Gujarat population is multiplying at a faster rate than the national average rate or that it is less affected by mortality during these particular age levels than the national average population. The inference is also suggested that the older population in Gujarat has a lower survival rate than the national average. However, no firm conclusion in this regard would be a safe one and it is best to take the figures as they are.

Pursuing the comparison at the State level we may take the cases of Mysore, Orissa and Rajasthan for the purpose of comparison just as we have done earlier. Placing the distribution of the population of Gujarat and each of these three other States under the various age-groups would provide the needed comparison. The distribution of the population of each of these States according to the various age-groups is therefore reproduced below:

STATEMENT IV.8

Percentage distribution of population of Gujarat and other selected States of India by broad age-groups, 1971

Name of the State	Percentage of the population in various age-groups				
	0-14	15-39	40-59	60+	Age not stated
Gujarat . . .	43.05	37.01	14.67	5.26	0.01
Mysore . . .	42.44	36.51	14.94	6.10	0.01
Orissa . . .	42.35	35.85	15.76	6.02	0.02
Rajasthan . . .	44.17	35.56	14.75	5.51	0.01

Reading the figures together column by column we see that the percentage of the youthful population of Gujarat in the 0-14 age-group is higher than that of both Mysore and Orissa but slightly lower than that of Rajasthan. In the next age-group, 15-39 years, the percentage of the Gujarat population is higher than the proportion of the population of each of the other three States. On the other hand, it is lower in the next age-groups, 40-59 and 60+, than the population of the remaining three States in these age-groups.

Another way in which we may look at this subject is to remember that the population of the very young and the very old is generally dependent on the population falling between these two extremes. Generally, the population in the age-groups 0-14 years and 60 years and more is regarded as the dependent portion of the population and the ratio between the population of these two combined groups and the remaining age-groups is usually spoken of as the dependency ratio. From the above figures if we work out the proportion of the dependent population we see that while 48.31 % of the population of Gujarat falls in the dependent category, the proportion of the population of each of the other three States in this category is 48.54 in the case of Mysore, 48.37 in the case of Orissa and 49.68 in the case of Rajasthan. Thus the dependency ratio of the population of Gujarat is lower than that obtaining in these three States.

The next logical step is to compare the age structure of the population of Gujarat with that of a few other countries. Unfortunately, however, such a comparison can serve only a limited purpose unless we can find countries

which are not only similar in population size but also in socio-economic, geographical and ecological factors. No such countries are easily available. We have no choice but to take the example of Argentina and Poland, the only two countries which have had a recent Census not too far remote in time from our own and which have a population size close to that of Gujarat. Beyond that, however, the comparison has very limited value because the various conditions that prevail in Gujarat simply do not correspond to or compare with those prevailing in these two countries. However, we may make the comparison for whatever it may be worth. The population of Argentina is 23,364,431 as compared to 26,697,475 in the case of Gujarat and that of Poland is 32,589,000. Placing the figures of Gujarat and these two countries under the various age-groups will suggest their own conclusions. These figures are reproduced below:

STATEMENT IV.9

Percentage distribution of population of Gujarat by broad age-groups as compared to that of Argentina and Poland

State/Country	Percentage of the population in various age-groups				
	0-14	15-39	40-59	60+	Age not stated
<i>Gujarat</i>	43.05	37.01	14.67	5.26	0.01
<i>Argentina</i>	30.71	38.74	21.35	8.92	0.24
<i>Poland</i>	28.47	38.50	20.92	12.11	..

We see from the above figures that Gujarat has a larger proportion of its population in the 0-14 age-group

than does either Argentina or Poland. However, these two countries have a higher proportion of the population in all the remaining age-groups than in the case of Gujarat. This may point to a higher birth rate in the case of the Gujarat population than in the population of these two countries and a much higher survival rate at the other end of the scale. Gujarat also has a higher dependency ratio than both Argentina and Poland.

To put the whole matter in perspective, the illustration alongside may be referred to. The broad base of young children shows the potential for high birth rate of the population as well as goes to explain of higher dependency ratio in the case of Gujarat as compared to all India figures as well as to the other countries which we have taken for the purpose of comparison.

We have examined the age structure of the population of Gujarat and we have also made the comparison of the same with the other countries of the world. It would be also interesting to study the distribution of the population by broad age-groups for males and females separately. In the population of Gujarat, persons in the younger age-group of 0-14 form 43.05 per cent of the total, whereas in the age-group of 15-59, they account for 51.68 per cent. In the older age-group of 60 and above this proportion is 5.26 per cent. Against this general pattern of age distribution the proportion of males in the younger age-group of 0-14 is marginally higher being 43.37 per cent of the total males in the State. In the age-group of 15-59, this proportion of males is 51.65 per cent, whereas in the older age-group of 60 and above it forms 4.97 per cent. There is a little difference if we take the age distribution of

the total females in the State of Gujarat. The number of females in the younger age-group of 0-14 accounts for 42.71 per cent which is marginally less than the corresponding figure of males in that age-group. The number of females in the age-group of 15-59 forms 51.71 per cent which compares favourably with the proportion of males in this age-group. In the older age-group of 60 and above the number of females account for 5.57 per cent. This pattern would thus indicate that the number of females per 1000 in the younger age-group of 0-14 are less as compared to the number of males whereas the number of females in the older age-group of 60 and above are proportionately higher than the males in that age-group. It can be concluded that the females usually live longer than the males. The following table illustrates the same.

STATEMENT IV.10

Percentage distribution of population of Gujarat by sex and broad age-groups, 1971

	Percentage of the population in various age-groups			
	0-14	15-59	60+	Age not stated
Persons	43.05	51.68	5.26	0.01
Males	43.37	51.65	4.97	0.01
Females	42.71	51.71	5.57	0.01

If we examine these figures for rural and urban areas, the differences in the age structure of the rural and the urban population can be brought out. In the rural areas the proportion of persons in the younger age-group of 0-14 comes to 44.19 per cent of the total population in the

rural areas. Comparing this figure with the urban areas it will be seen that the persons in the younger age-group of 0-14 form only 40.13 per cent of the total urban population. This shows a considerable difference in the proportion of population in the younger age-group of 0-14. Looking to the age-group of 15-59 it would be seen that the persons in this age-group form 50.35 per cent of the total rural population. Thus nearly half the population falls in this age-group. If we compare this figure with the urban population in that age-group it would be seen that the proportion of persons in the age-group of 15-59 in the urban areas form 55.08 per cent of the total urban population. Probable reason for higher proportion of persons in this age-group may be the migration of adult males and females in the urban areas from the rural areas. If we examine the older age-group it would also be seen that the proportion of persons in the older age-group of 60 and above comes to 5.45 per cent in the rural areas. In comparison to this the proportion of persons in this age-group in the urban areas is only 4.78. The following table would make the things clear.

STATEMENT IV.11

Rural/Urban percentage distribution of population of Gujarat by sex and broad age-groups, 1971

	Percentage of the population in various age-groups				
					Age not stated
	0-14	15-59	60+		
1	2	3	4	5	
<i>Rural</i>					
Persons . . .	44.19	50.35	5.45	0.01	
Males . . .	44.83	49.93	5.23	0.01	

	1	2	3	4	5
Females . . .		43.53	50.79	5.67	0.01
<i>Urban</i>					
Persons . . .		40.13	55.08	4.78	0.01
Males . . .		39.76	55.91	4.32	0.01
Females . . .		40.54	54.14	5.31	0.01

CHAPTER V

LITERACY

ONE OF THE important items of data collected through the Census relates to literacy. For the purpose of the Indian Census literacy consists of the ability to read and write and every person who can do this has been treated as literate. This is invariably one of the important items of data collected at a Census and is of particular interest to us in view of the extent of illiteracy still prevailing in our country.

The latest Census shows 35.79 per cent of the population of our State to be literate. This means that only about 36 out of every 100 persons in the State can read and write. This compares quite favourably with the position at 1961 when about 30 persons out of every 100 in our State were able to read and write. The actual percentage increase over these 10 years has been to the order of 5.34 per cent. In this respect the growth of literacy in Gujarat during the last 10 years has been slightly less than the growth rate at the national level, where it is 5.43 per cent. Continuing the earlier comparison with Mysore, Orissa and Rajasthan, we find that the growth of literacy in Mysore over the last 10 years has been to the order of 6.12 per cent and thus has been quite a bit better than in the case of Gujarat. However, Rajasthan which has recorded a higher literacy rate of only 3.86 per cent, and Orissa which has recorded a literacy rate of only 4.52 per cent, have not done so well.

It would be interesting to see the ranking of the various States according to literacy at the latest Census. For

our present purpose we will be leaving out the Union Territories for the time being. These are small compact areas with entirely different sets of circumstances and conditions that do not prevail in the States in general. The characteristics of the population in the Union Territories are also slightly different from those in the average States in the country.

Gujarat State, with 35.79 per cent of its population returned as literate in 1971, ranks 4th on the literacy map of the country. The first three are Kerala, with a literacy of 60.42 per cent, Tamil Nadu with a literacy of 39.46 per cent and Maharashtra with a literacy of 39.18 per cent. You will notice the extreme distance between the literacy level in Kerala and each of these other States including our own. Gujarat, which ranks 4th, is followed by Punjab (33.67%), West Bengal (33.20%), Manipur (32.91%), Himachal Pradesh (31.96%) & Mysore (31.52%). Tripura, with a literacy of 30.98 per cent, and Meghalaya, with a literacy of 29.49 per cent, rank 10th and 11th respectively and are also above the national average, which is 29.46 per cent. All the rest of the States have a literacy level below the national level. After the above 11 States the next in rank are Assam, which ranks 12th, with a literacy of 28.72 per cent, Nagaland, which is 13th, with a literacy of 27.40 per cent, Haryana, ranking 14th with 26.89 per cent and Orissa, ranking 15th, with 26.18 per cent. The remaining six States have a literacy below 25 per cent. The literacy level in each of these States is as follows. The States are listed below according to rank.

STATEMENT V.1

Ranking of States of India having literacy percentage below 25 per cent

Rank	Name of State	Per cent of the population that is literate
16	Andhra Pradesh . . .	24.57
17	Madhya Pradesh . . .	22.14
18	Uttar Pradesh . . .	21.77
19	Bihar . . .	19.94
20	Rajasthan . . .	19.07
21	Jammu & Kashmir . . .	18.58

A question that we may well ask ourselves at this stage is as to the extent to which literacy in our State has grown over the last 10 years between the Census of 1961 and 1971. While we have not done so well as Kerala which has recorded a growth of 13.57 per cent, we have just been able to keep pace with the national average of 5.43% by ourselves recording a growth of 5.34 per cent. Therefore while the progress of literacy over the last 10 years may not seem as satisfactory as we would wish it to be, nor is it as encouraging as in the case of Kerala, nevertheless the growth recorded in the State is very near the national average.

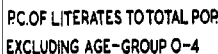
Let us also examine some other aspects of the subject. We know that literacy among the women in India has always been low compared to that among the men. It would be worth examining here if the latest information shows any progress in this regard over the last 10 years. In Gujarat in 1961, 41 men out of 100 were literate. In the 1971 Census 46 men out of 100 are literate. There is thus an improvement to the extent of 5 persons per 100

persons among the males. In actual figures the literacy among the men has risen from 41.13 per cent to 46.11 per cent, thereby marking an increase of 4.98 per cent. As regards women 19, out of every 100 women in the State were literate in 1961. As compared to this nearly 25 women out of every 100 women are literate at the latest Census. This marks an increase of six per 100 women. In actual figures the literacy among women has increased from 19.10 per cent in 1961 to 24.75 per cent at the latest Census. This therefore marks an improvement to the order of 5.65 per cent. It is therefore encouraging to see that literacy has grown more rapidly in the female population than in the male population. Considering the traditionally slow rate at which female literacy in India has grown it would require a much greater effort to improve the percentage of literacy among women.

At the level of the individual districts the highest growth rate in literacy in the male population has been recorded in Sabar Kantha where the growth during the last 10 years has been to the extent of 7.96 per cent. This district is followed in order of rank by Gandhinagar district with a growth of 6.81 per cent, Rajkot district with a growth of 6.65 per cent, Kheda district with 6.64 per cent, The Dangs district with a growth of 6.54 per cent, and Surendranagar with 6.19 per cent. The districts of Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Junagadh and Ahmadabad have all recorded a growth rate of literacy above 5 per cent in the male population as follows:

<i>District</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Junagadh	5.54
Ahmadabad	5.40
Bhavnagar	5.29
Jamnagar	5.04

LITERACY, 1971



Based upon Survey of India map with the permission of the surveyor General of India
The territorial waters of India extend into the sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles
measured from the appropriate base line

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Five districts have recorded a growth rate between 4 and 5 in literacy in the male population. These are listed below according to order of rank.

<i>District</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Amreli	4.90
Panch Mahals	4.73
Vadodara	4.67
Mahesana	4.28

The growth in literacy in the male population of Kutch has been only to the order of 3.97, that of Banas Kantha 3.62, and that of Valsad 3.19. The tribal districts of Surat and Bharuch have recorded minor growth. That in the case of Surat has been 2.69 per cent while that in the case of Bharuch has been as low as 0.02. By and large, however, we see that the growth rate of literacy in the male population has been satisfactory.

The growth rate of literacy in the female population has been even more encouraging. At the State level as a whole the growth in female literacy has been to the order of 5.65 per cent. There are seven districts in the State which have recorded a growth rate higher than this. These are listed below in order of rank.

STATEMENT V.2

Descending order of the districts having higher female literacy growth rate as compared to that of the State

<i>District</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Rajkot	8.19
Ahmadabad	8.07
Gandhinagar	7.88
Junagadh	6.77
Kheda	6.74
Sabar Kantha	6.38
Jamnagar	5.85

We thus see from the above that while the highest rate of growth in literacy in the male population has been recorded in Sabar Kantha district, (where the growth has been to the extent of 7.96 per cent), there are two districts where female literacy has recorded higher growth rate than male literacy. These districts are Rajkot and Ahmadabad. Proceeding a step further, we also see that the female population in three other districts has recorded a higher rate of growth in literacy than the average growth rate of literacy in respect of the male population at the State level. Female literacy in Valsad district has recorded a growth of 5.59 per cent, in Mahesana of 5.56 per cent and in Bhavnagar of 5.41 per cent. In all the remaining districts the growth rate of female literacy has been less than 5 per cent.

In general, therefore, we can conclude that not only has literacy increased both in the male and female population but also that it has done so appreciably in respect of the male population in some districts and most encouragingly so in the female population in quite a few of the districts. Female literacy and education is therefore clearly on the rise and while it will take some time before the gap between the level of male literacy and female literacy is bridged, present trends are nevertheless encouraging.

Just as there has always been a considerable gap between male literacy and female literacy there has also been a considerable gap in literacy in the rural areas and in the urban areas. We should therefore also examine the latest position in this regard in respect of the both rural and urban areas.

Let us first take the rural areas. In 1961, 24.17 per cent of the rural population was literate. In 1971 this

figure has gone up to 28.33 per cent. This therefore marks an increase of 4.16 per cent in rural literacy. While this does not compare very favourably with the growth in urban literacy, over the same period (which is to the extent of 5.99 per cent), it is nevertheless an encouraging index of changing rural attitudes about literacy and education. Our rural areas have also always been backward in the matter of learning and education and it has also taken time to reach adequate educational facilities to all such areas. Any improvement that can be registered from these areas in the matter of literacy is therefore cause for some satisfaction.

The greatest improvement has been recorded in Surendranagar district where the increase in rural literacy is to the order of 14.65%. Sabar Kantha district comes next with an increase of 6.74%, Rajkot with 6.47%, Kheda with 5.84 per cent and Junagadh and Gandhinagar districts, both with 5.69 per cent. The extent of rural literacy in Surendranagar at the 1971 Census is 32.08 per cent, that in Rajkot is 28.49 per cent, that in Sabar Kantha is 29.06 per cent, that in Kheda is 38.45, that in Junagadh is 23.41 per cent and that in Gandhinagar is 39.93 per cent. However the first five districts according overall strength of rural literacy are as follows.

	<i>District</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1	Gandhinagar	39.93
2	Kheda	38.45
3	Mahesana	35.82
4	Valsad	33.21
5	Surendranagar	32.08

The next five districts in order of rank as regards rural literacy all have more than 30 per cent of the rural

population literate. Their names are listed below according to rank. The percentage of the literate rural population is also indicated.

	<i>District</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
6	Bharuch	31.85
7	Vadodara	31.51
8	Ahmadabad	31.39
9	Surat	30.86
10	Amreli	30.11

In the districts of Sabar Kantha, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Jamnagar and Kutch, rural literacy is between 20 to 29 per cent. Details in respect of each of the districts are listed below in order of rank:

	<i>District</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
11	Sabar Kantha	29.06
12	Rajkot	28.49
13	Bhavnagar	23.80
14	Junagadh	23.41
15	Kutch	22.86
16	Jamnagar	22.73

The remaining three districts, Panch Mahals, The Dangs and Banas Kantha each has a rural literacy level of below 20 per cent. In Panch Mahals 18.77 per cent of the rural population is literate while in The Dangs it is 14.16 per cent and in Banas Kantha it is 12.93 per cent.

We see therefore that rural literacy in Gujarat is improving steadily and, even though the rate of improvement may not be as quick as we would wish it to be, it is nevertheless quite encouraging in quite a few areas.

Let us next take the urban component of the population and discuss the state of literacy in this part of the population.

48.91 per cent of the urban population of the State was literate in 1961. At 1971 54.90 per cent of the urban population is literate, thus registering an improvement to the extent of 5.99 per cent over the intervening period between 1961 and 1971. Nine districts in the State have shown an improvement in literacy in the urban population to an extent higher than the State average. These in order of rank according to the degree of improvement are the districts of Mahesana, Vadodara, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Kheda, Junagadh, Amreli and Ahmadabad. Urban literacy in Mahesana has jumped from 43.05 per cent in 1961 to 52.16 per cent in 1971, marking an increase of 9.11 per cent. The increase in the case of Vadodara has been to the order of 8.01 per cent, from 53.57 per cent in 1961 to 61.58 per cent in 1971; that in Rajkot has been 7.75 per cent, from 48.72 per cent to 56.47 per cent; that in Jamnagar by 6.80 per cent, from 42.30 per cent to 49.10 per cent; that in Bhavnagar by 6.74 per cent, from 44.97 per cent to 51.71 per cent; that in Kheda by 6.70 per cent, from 52.19 per cent to 58.89 per cent; that in Junagadh by 6.64 per cent, from 41.43 per cent to 48.07 per cent; that in Amreli by 6.57 per cent, from 41.33 per cent to 47.90 per cent and, finally, that in Ahmadabad by 6.07 per cent, from 51.35 per cent to 57.42 per cent.

However, the first five districts in order of rank according to the level of literacy of the urban population are the districts of Vadodara, Kheda, Valsad, Ahmadabad and Rajkot. 61.58 per cent of the urban population of Vadodara district is literate. The figure for Kheda is 58.89 per cent, that for Valsad is 57.53 per cent, that for Ahmadabad is 57.42 per cent and that for Rajkot is 56.47

per cent. More than 50 per cent of the urban population in Surat, Gandhinagar, Panch Mahals, Bharuch, Sabar Kantha, Mahesana, Bhavnagar and Surendranagar is literate. The extent of literacy in the urban population of all these districts according to order of rank is as follows:

STATEMENT V.3

Descending order of the districts having more than 50 per cent of their urban population as literate, 1971

<i>District</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Surat	56.16
Gandhinagar	55.52
Panch Mahals	54.84
Bharuch	54.13
Sabar Kantha	52.79
Mahesana	52.16
Bhavnagar	51.71
Surendranagar	50.88

In the rest of the districts of the State less than half the urban population is literate. Jamnagar ranks 14th with 49.10 per cent of its urban population being literate; Kutch is 15th with 48.94 per cent, Junagadh is 16th with 48.07 per cent, Amreli is 17th with 47.90 per cent and Banas Kantha is the last with 42.90 per cent. The nineteenth district, The Dangs, has no urban population.

Thus we see quite a few encouraging signs both in respect of growth of literacy in the female population as well as in the rural population, both of which sectors have traditionally suffered from a low literacy level. We have seen that literacy is growing slowly but steadily in both these sectors and have also seen that there is an all-round

growth in literacy throughout the State. Everything considered, the present level of literacy in the State and the rate at which it is growing are both encouraging.

The figures show that over the last 10 years areas now forming Gandhinagar district have recorded the highest all-round improvement in the matter of literacy. Literacy in this district has grown by 7.56 per cent, from 34.24 per cent in 1961 to 41.80 per cent in 1971. The impression that this information creates can be a misleading one and we must remember that the improvement is due largely to the impact of the migration of a large literate population into the newly created district to man the new Secretariat and other State Government offices in Gandhinagar town. The next best improvement has been recorded by Rajkot district where literacy has grown by 7.49 per cent over the last 10 years. The third best improvement has been in Sabar Kantha where literacy has increased from 24.03 per cent in 1961 to 31.14 per cent in 1971, marking an increase of 7.11 per cent. Ahmadabad and Junagadh districts rank 4th and 5th respectively in order of improvement, the growth in Ahmadabad being from 42.22 per cent to 48.79 per cent, marking an increase of 6.57 per cent and that in Junagadh from 24.42 to 30.64 per cent, marking an increase of 6.22 per cent.

However, in terms of overall ranking according to the level of literacy in the districts, the first 5 in order of rank are as follows. The figures show the percentage of the total population that is literate.

	<i>District</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1	Ahmadabad	48.79
2	Kheda	42.53

	<i>District</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
3	Gandhinagar	41.80
4	Vadodara	40.67
5	Surat	39.39

The rest of the districts according to order of rank are listed below.

6	Rajkot	39.23
7	Mahesana	38.86
8	Valsad	37.57
9	Bharuch	35.73
10	Amreli	33.65
11	Bhavnagar	32.73
12	Jamnagar	32.04
13	Sabar Kantha	31.14
14	Junagadh	30.64
15	Surendranagar	29.86
16	Kutch	29.44
17	Panch Mahals	22.82
18	Banas Kantha	15.76
19	The Dangs	14.16

We have already seen that the level of literacy at the national level is 29.46 per cent of the total population. The level of literacy in Gujarat, which is 35.79 per cent, is therefore better than the national average and better than all other States except Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. In general therefore the condition of literacy in Gujarat, while still far from the highest, is nevertheless encouraging. We have also seen that the literacy level in the male population is invariably higher than that in the female population and in the urban population than in the rural population. But there has also been reason to remark that literacy in both the female population as well as the rural population is showing improvement slowly but

steadily. Rural literacy is higher in Gujarat than in all other States except Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh and Manipur. Similarly, urban literacy is likewise higher in Gujarat than all other States except Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and West Bengal.

Let us now lastly examine literacy in the urban areas according to the different size classes of towns and as ranged at the taluka level. Let us first state literacy in the *different size classes of towns*. 54.90 per cent of the population of the State living in towns and cities is literate. This means that about 55 people out of every 100 living in the towns and cities can read and write. We have already seen that the State has 216 towns and we have earlier divided them into six classes from Class I to Class VI according to population size ranges. We have also seen that there are seven cities of Class I size, 18 towns of Class II size, 42 towns of Class III size, 73 towns of Class IV, and 71 and 5 towns of Class V and VI respectively. The level of literacy is highest in the Class I towns, where 59.22 per cent of the population is literate. The level of literacy decreases progressively with the reduction in size class. The smaller the population size class of the towns the lower is the level of literacy. The level of literacy in towns of Class II is 55.25 per cent and that in Class III is 51.67 per cent. In the Class IV towns 49.04 per cent of the population is literate while in towns of Class V 47.10 per cent of the population is literate. Lastly, in the Class VI towns, only 40.83 per cent of the population is literate.

Looking at the matter at the level of individual cities and towns we find that though at the level of the district

32.04 per cent of the population of Jamnagar is literate, 54.11 per cent of the population of Jamnagar city is literate. In Rajkot city the level of literacy is as high as 60.45 per cent, while that of Dhoraji and Morvi towns in the district is 50.79 and 56.56 per cent. 56.54 per cent of of the population of Surendranagar town is literate. In Bhavnagar, Bhavnagar city also has about the same level of literacy with 56.40 per cent of its population being literate, as against the district level figure of 32.73 per cent. Junagadh and Porbandar towns also show literacy of about the same level, the former having 56.99 per cent of its population literate and the latter, 55.54 per cent. Patan town in Mahesana district has a literacy of 53.13 per cent while Ahmadabad and Nadiad cities and Cambay town have 58.98 per cent, 61.62 per cent and 56.22 per cent respectively. The highest level of literacy among the individual towns and cities is to be found in Vadodara city where 63.49 per cent of the population is literate. 55.20 per cent of the population of Godhra town and 54.66 per cent of that of Bharuch town is literate. In Surat city the level of literacy is to the extent of 58.11 per cent while, finally, that in Navsari town of Valsad district it is 57.96 per cent.

Looking at the literacy levels of the male and female populations of the seven cities in the State would also prove interesting. The levels of literacy in these two categories of the population of the seven cities are tabulated below.

STATEMENT V.4**Sexwise literacy percentages of the cities of Gujarat, 1971**

<i>City</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Ahmadabad	66.47	49.98
Surat	65.98	49.25
Vadodara	70.98	54.69
Rajkot	67.96	52.29
Bhavnagar	65.89	45.95
Jamnagar	63.44	43.89
Nadiad	69.62	52.61

At the level of talukas note should also be taken of the extremely low level of literacy in some of the talukas of some of the districts. While the bulk of the talukas are in the literacy range of 21 per cent to 50 per cent, there are a few where the literacy is less than 11 per cent or higher than 51 per cent. The literacy in Deodar, Vav, Tharad and Dhanera talukas of Banās Kantha, Limkheda taluka of Panch Mahals, Chhota-Udaipur taluka of Vadodara and Uchhal taluka of Surat district is less than 11 per cent. The individual figures for each of these talukas are as follows.

STATEMENT V.5**Talukas in the State having literacy below 11 per cent, 1971**

<i>Taluka</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Deodar	10.98
Vav	9.92
Tharad	9.86
Dhanera	10.34
Limkheda	10.69
Chhota-Udaipur	10.73
Uchhal	10.54

At the other end of the scale where the literacy level is 51 per cent or more there are only six talukas. These are the talukas of Rajkot, Ahmadabad City Taluka, Vadodara, Chorasi in Surat district, and Gandevi and Navsari in Valsad district. The level of literacy in respect of each of these talukas is as follows:

STATEMENT V.6

Talukas in the State having literacy more than 51 percent, 1971

<i>Taluka</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Rajkot	51.85
Ahmadabad City	57.87
Vadodara	57.40
Chorasi	55.15
Gandevi	53.22
Navsari	51.68

Thus we see from the above that there is a sharp contrast between Tharad taluka where literacy is lowest, and Ahmadabad City Taluka, where it is highest. In the former only about 10 persons out of every 100 are literate. In Ahmadabad City Taluka on the other hand, about 58 persons out of every 100 are literate.

The break-up of the talukas of the State by literacy ranges may lastly be tabulated as the final word of this chapter. There are in all 184 talukas in the State. Their distribution according to ranges of percentage of literacy is as follows:

STATEMENT V.7

Number of talukas classified by literacy percentage ranges, 1971

<i>Percentage ranges</i>	<i>Number of talukas in this range</i>
Below 11	7
11 to 20.99	26
21 to 30.99	60
31 to 40.99	59

<i>Percentage ranges</i>	<i>Number of talukas in this range</i>
41 to 50.99	26
51 and above	6
	Total <u>184</u>

The level of literacy at the level of the State as a whole is 34.79 per cent. The number of talukas attaining or exceeding this level is only 61 out of a total of 184.

CHAPTER VI

THE MOTHER TONGUES WE SPEAK

OUR COUNTRY today is a nation measuring over 3 million square kilometres—which is about as much as the continent of Europe without Russia—and has a population of over 547 million people, which is the highest among the countries of the world except only China. It comprises of people of many diverse races and cultures and languages. One of the aspects of our people that has always fascinated and engaged the minds of students of India is the languages that we speak. The total range of mother tongues spoken by the people of our country consists of obscure dialects spoken by small ethnic or social groups or even just a few individuals to full-fledged and well-developed languages as richly endowed as any in the world and spoken by substantial sections of our population. The all-India list of mother tongues as lastly codified by the Census has as many as 1,652 mother tongues returned at the 1961 Census. The bulk of these are however no more than obscure local dialects and much work still remains to be done in classifying and properly identifying them. The 1971 Census list of numerically important mother tongues at the national level lists 281 names. From both of these items of information you can appreciate not only the multiplicity of tongues that obtain in the country as a whole but also that the large number of these have relevance even at the national level.

Adequate and accurate information on the large number of mother tongues returned at the various Censuses throughout the country is not yet fully available and

properly identifying and classifying these poses a major problem to our scholars. Systematic language surveys seem to offer an appropriate answer to this challenge. India is one of the few countries in the world where such systematic surveys are being carried out. The foundation-stone for this type of work was laid early in the long and distinguished history of demographic work in India. Sir George Grierson's "Linguistic Survey of India", done between 1894—1927, is the first major product of the effort in this direction. Even though it was eventually not the kind of survey that Sir Grierson had first planned and could not cover many areas of the country, yet it was the first organised major study of the languages of India. It is the first competent classification of our languages on the basis of some technical criteria determined according to Grierson's methods. That these methods are today considered outmoded by current standards does not detract from the great value of his work.

So diverse and complex is the linguistic composition of our country that no individual or even small groups of researchers can plumb the full depth of the field and it has traditionally fallen to the Census of India to collect the information on this subject along with the enumeration of the population. This practice is to be found in some other countries also. Data of mother tongues is generally considered to be most useful for analysing the composition of the population with respect to ethnic origin, though they are not considered reliable as indications of the actual linguistic abilities of the people at the time of enumeration. 'Mother tongue' has generally been defined as the language spoken in the home during the childhood of the enumerated person, or the language spoken by the parents of

the person, or that which the enumerated person first learnt to speak. Our very first inquiry into the linguistic composition of our population was made in 1881 when a question on language was incorporated in the Census schedules for that year. Since then the Indian Census has never looked back and has continued to collect valuable data on the mother tongues spoken by the multi-lingual, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural population of our country. In the process we have been able to improve upon and up-to-date the work of George Grierson, our first major scholar of our languages. How important and necessary it was not to rest content with the work of early scholars but to go on improving and adding to the knowledge previously gained can be appreciated if we compare the linguistic composition of the country as Grierson found it with that as exists it today. Grierson listed a total of 572 mother tongues returned at the population count of that year. Out of these 400 were not traceable in the earlier Linguistic Survey of India and 50 were traceable but were tentatively reclassified.

With the above background let us now go over the whole position as regards languages or other tongues spoken in the country at the time of the latest Census. Let us first deal with the subject with regard to the country as a whole. As we have already seen 1652 mother tongues were returned at the 1961 population count. We have also seen how some of these were traceable in the earlier classification made by Grierson, and how some of them came to be reclassified differently from Grierson's classification. We have also seen that as many as 527 mother tongues of the 1961 Census were unclassified and that 103 mother tongues were identifiable foreign mother tongues, efforst

to fully and satisfactorily classify all the mother tongues of India continue. While the full list of the mother tongues returned at the 1971 Census of India has not yet become available it has been established that there are 281 mother tongues which are mainly important at the national level, each of them having 5,000 or more speakers.

Our Constitution recognises 15 languages as being important. These are the following:

Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

According to the provisional data of the 1971 Census the latest ranking of these languages according to order of population speaking them is as follows:

STATEMENT VI.1

Ranking of the languages (included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India) on the strength of number of speakers (Provisional figures) India, 1971

Hindi	1	Malayalam	8
Telugu	2	Kannada	9
Bengali	3	Oriya	10
Marathi	4	Punjabi	12
Tamil	5	Assamese	13
Urdu	6	Kashmiri	19
Gujarati	7	Sindhi	30

Sanskrit does not figure in the list of 281 numerically strong languages, each of which has a population of more than 5000 speakers. At the 1961 Census, Sanskrit was

returned as mother tongue by 2,542 individuals. It is doubtful whether Sanskrit is currently being used as the spoken language in any part of the country at the family level. Thus, therefore, even though Sanskrit is recognised as one of the 15 nationally important languages of India it does not seem to be an important spoken language now.

It would be interesting to see as to which are the languages which have returned a population of speakers higher than even these recognised nationally important languages. We have seen that the first 10 numerically strongest languages in order of rank by size of population speaking them are from among the 15 important languages figuring in our Constitution as explained above. Punjabi and Assamese rank 12th and 13th. They have been superseded in rank by a language which, though not figuring in the VIIIth Schedule of the Constitution, nevertheless has a population of speakers higher than either of these two languages. The language ranking 11th before Punjabi and Assamese is Bhojpuri. Similarly Kashmiri has been superseded by 5 other languages in addition to Bhojpuri. These languages which have a higher population of speakers than Kashmiri are Chathisgari, Magahi or Magadhi, Mithili, Marwadi and Santali. Similarly, Sindhi has also been superseded by 10 languages in addition to the 5 mentioned above and the Bhojpuri language. The languages having a higher population of speakers than Sindhi are Rajasthani, Gondi, Kokani, Dogri, Gorkhali or Nepali, Garhwali, Pahari, Bhili or Bhilodi, Kurukh or Oraon, and Kumauni.

The number of speakers of languages specified in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India is as follows at the national level:—

STATEMENT VI.2

Languages (Specified in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India) arranged in descending order according to the number of speakers (Provisional figures) India, 1971

1	Hindi	153,729,062
2	Telugu	44,707,697
3	Bengali	44,521,533
4	Marathi	41,723,893
5	Tamil	37,592,794
6	Urdu	28,600,428
7	Gujarati	25,656,274
8	Malayalam	21,917,430
9	Kannada	21,575,019
10	Oriya	19,726,745
11	Punjabi	13,900,202
12	Assamese	8,958,977
13	Kashmiri	2,421,760
14	Sindhi	1,204,678
15	Sanskrit	2,212

In our own State the number of speakers speaking each of the nationally important languages is as follows:

STATEMENT VI.3

Number of speakers of languages (Specified in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India) and their percentage to the total population of the State, 1971

Language	No. of speakers	Percentage of total population
1	2	3
Assamese	155	N
Bengali	5,702	0.02
Gujarati	23,856,955	89.36
Hindi	337,501	1.26

1	2	3
Kannada	6,974	0.03
Kashmiri	872	N
Malayalam	18,650	0.07
Marathi	258,069	0.97
Oriya	1,248	N
Punjabi	25,335	0.09
Sanskrit	38	N
Sindhi	201,894	0.76
Tamil	15,995	0.06
Telugu	16,604	0.06
Urdu	579,224	2.17

Taking an overall view of the subject for the State as a whole it may next be observed that a total of 172 mother tongues were recorded as being spoken in Gujarat at the time of the 1971 Census. Of these, the 10 most important and numerically strong according to the size of the population speaking them and the percentage of the total population of the State speaking each one of them are as follows:

STATEMENT VI.4

10 most numerically important mother tongues of the State arranged in descending order according to the number of speakers and their percentages to total population 1971

Name of mother tongue	No. of speakers	Per cent of total population.
1	2	3
1 Gujarati	23,856,955	89.36
2 Urdu	579,224	2.17
3 Kuchchhi	405,569	1.52
4 Hindi	337,501	1.26

1	2	3
5 Marathi	258,069	0.97
6 Sindhi	201,894	0.76
7 Kokna/Kokni	142,942	0.54
8 Chodhari	138,978	0.52
9 Gamti/Gamit	136,209	0.51
10 Bhili/Bhilodi	113,967	0.43

All the remaining 162 mother tongues taken together account for 1.96 per cent of the population. It will be seen from this that the population speaking these 162 remaining mother tongues will in most cases be very small, some mother tongues even having as few speakers as one or two or three. We have also seen that apart from Gujarati, which is the mother tongue of 89.36 per cent of the population of the State, 4 others of the 15 nationally important languages figure among the 10 numerically strongest languages spoken in Gujarat. These, according to rank according to the strength of population speaking them, are Urdu, Hindi, Marathi and Sindhi. You will also notice that apart from Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi, Sindhi and Urdu which figure among the national languages, and Kuchchhi, which is the language spoken mainly in Kutch district and in the case of the other areas inhabited by people originating from that district, the remaining 4 of the 10 main languages of the State are all tribal languages.

It would be interesting to see if the proportion of the 10 most important languages in the State remains more or less uniform in all the districts.

Gujarati

Let us take Gujarati first, which is the main language of the State and which, at the national level, ranks 7th among the languages of the country according to numerical strength. As we have seen 89.36 per cent of the population of the State speaks Gujarati. That is to say that 89 people out of every 100 in the State speak this language. The superiority of this language over all the others in numerical strength is maintained in all the districts except those of Kutch, Ahmadabad, Surat, Valsad and The Dangs. Kuchchhi is the third most numerically strong language in the State and the highest proportion of its speakers are in Kutch district. As against the State average of 89.36 per cent only 55.79 per cent of the population of Kutch speaks Gujarati. In Ahmadabad district 80 per cent of the population speaks Gujarati. The factors accounting for this are slightly different from those responsible for the variation in proportion in respect of Kutch district. Ahmadabad City, which has the largest single concentration of population in the State, as well as numerous other areas of the district, houses many families, individual or groups of people originating from outside the State and having mother tongues other than Gujarati. The trade, commerce and industries sectors accommodate a very good number of such migrants. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission as well as numerous manufacturing and industrial establishments functioning in the district are among those that have large numbers of non-Gujarati speaking people. In the southern districts of Surat, Valsad and The Dangs the reasons are again different from those that effect Kutch or Ahmadabad but, are identical in the case of all three districts. Here tribal

languages and dialects predominate among the larger sections of the population, thereby reducing the proportion of the Gujarati speaking population. In Surat 64.85 per cent of the population speaks Gujarati while the figure for Valsad and The Dangs is 77.98 per cent and 5.34 per cent respectively. Surat district still has close associations with Maharashtra and a good number of its border villages still continue to have close contacts with that State. Marathi is therefore the mother tongue of a considerable section of the population of this district. It also has a number of tribal dialects and languages which have been classed under the group of 'other mother tongues'. The percentage of those speaking Marathi is 4.24 and of those speaking 'other mother tongues' not falling in the 10 most numerically strongest languages is 6.28 per cent. In Valsad the percentage of Gujarati speaking people is 77.98, the proportion as compared to the State level being reduced by the comparatively large number of people who speak Kokna or Kokni and other mother tongues grouped under 'other mother tongues'. In The Dangs, the proportion of the Gujarati speaking population is as low as 5.34 per cent. As against this the proportion of those grouped under "other mother tongues" is as high as 81.27 per cent. This last fact is an indicator of the complex multiplicity of mother tongues that obtains in this district.

Urdu

The next largest lingual group is that of the Urdu speaking people. This group accounts for 2.17 per cent of the State's population. At the district level this is an isolated phenomenon and only in the districts of Junagadh, Ahmadabad, Kheda, Vadodara, Bharuch and Surat is a substantial population of Urdu speakers to be

found. In Junagadh 2.40 per cent of the population speaks Urdu; the figure for Kheda is 2.68, that for Vadodara it is 2.47 per cent and that for Bharuch it is 2.29 per cent. Ahmadabad district has a comparatively much higher proportion of Urdu speaking people; here 7.21 per cent of the population speaks this language. This is due largely to the large Muslim population of the district, particularly of Ahmadabad City and some of its talukas. The role of Urdu speaking migrants also has something to do with this. In Surat 3.92 per cent of the population speaks Urdu. In all other districts the proportion of the population speaking Urdu is less than the State level average.

Kachchhi

Kachchhi is the third most numerically strong language in the State. 1.52 per cent of the population of the State speaks this language. By and large the proportion of the population speaking Kachchhi in the districts is negligible except in the case of Jamnagar and Kutch districts. The largest number of Kachchhi speakers are in Kutch district from which the language takes its name. Here 39.83 per cent of the population speaks this language. The next largest group of Kachchhi speakers is in Jamnagar district which borders the district of Kutch across the gulf of Cambay and where 4.34 per cent of the population speaks this language. In all other districts the proportion of the population speaking Kachchhi is less than 1 per cent.

Hindi

Hindi is spoken by 1.26 per cent of the population of the State. Like Kachchhi, this is also an isolated

phenomenon. The largest single group speaking this language is to be found in Ahmadabad where 5.48 per cent of the population is Hindi-speaking. The proportion of the population speaking Hindi in Vadodara is 1.86 per cent, that in Surat is 1.47 per cent and that in Kutch is 1.41 per cent. In all other districts the percentage of the population speaking Hindi is below 1 per cent of the district population.

Marathi

Marathi is the 4th numerically strongest language in the State and accounts for 0.97 per cent of the population. It is Surat district which has the largest population of Marathi speakers. 4.24 per cent of its population speak this language. The reasons for this are not far to seek. The district itself borders Maharashtra and there are a large number of migrants from the Marathi speaking area. The next in order of rank is Vadodara where 3.48 per cent of the population speaks this language. As is well-known the district is mainly comprised of the territories of the former princely State of Baroda which was ruled by the Gaikwad family which had Marathi as its mother tongue. Several families from Maharashtra had migrated to Baroda State area and, made it their home. Ahmadabad also has a fairly large Marathi speaking population. 1.90 per cent of the population of this district and 1.56 per cent of the population of Valsad district speak Marathi as a mother tongue. In all other districts the percentage of population speaking Marathi as a mother tongue, except in The Dangs, is below 1 per cent. In The Dangs district 3.04 per cent of the population speaks Marathi.

Sindhi

Sindhi is spoken as a mother tongue by 0.76 per cent of the total population of the State. The largest concentration of Sindhi speakers is surprisingly in The Dangs district where 6.01 per cent of the population speaks this language as a mother tongue. Ahmadabad has the next largest group of Sindhi speaking people, and 2.38 per cent of the population of this district is Sindhi-speaking. 1.07 per cent of the population of Vadodara district, 1.61 per cent of that of Junagadh district and 1.80 per cent of that of Kutch district speaks Sindhi as a mother tongue. In all other districts the proportion of the population speaking Sindhi as a mother tongue is less than 1 per cent.

Kokna or Kokni

We then come to the group of tribal languages which, apart from the 5 nationally important languages (Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi, Sindhi and Urdu), and Kachchhi, are among the numerically strongest languages in the State. All of these languages, namely, Kokna or Kokni, Chodhari, Gamti or Gamit and Bhili or Bhilodi are tribal languages. Of these the numerically strongest is Kokna or Kokni which is spoken by 0.53 per cent of the total State population. The proportion of the population speaking this language as a mother tongue is negligible in Rajkot, Surendranagar, Banas Kantha, Mahesana, Panch Mahals and Bharuch districts. In Amreli and Sabar Kantha districts this language is not spoken as a mother tongue at all. It is mainly to be found in the district of Valsad and Surat. In Valsad district 8.77 per cent of the population claims this language as a mother tongue while the proportion

of the population doing so in Surat district is 0.85 per cent.

Gamti or Gamit

It is again the southern districts which are the main centres of the Gamti or Gamit language. Speakers with this language as a mother tongue are completely absent in Jamnagar, Rajkot, Surendranagar, Bhavnagar, Amreli, Kutch, Banas Kantha, Sabar Kantha, Mahesana, Gandhinagar, Ahmadabad, Kheda, Panch Mahals and Vadodara districts. A very negligible proportion of the population claims this language as its mother tongue in Junagadh district. 7.25 per cent of the population of Surat district has this language as a mother tongue while the figure for The Dangs district is 3.10 per cent, that for Valsad is 0.15 per cent and that for Bharuch is 0.14 per cent. At the State level this mother tongue accounts for 0.51 per cent of the total population of the State.

Chodhari

The eighth largest lingual group is that of persons speaking Chodhari as a mother tongue. 0.52 per cent of the population of the State returned this language as its mother tongue in 1971. As in the case of Gamti or Gamit, its main concentration is in south Gujarat. Persons speaking Chodhari as a mother tongue are completely absent in all the districts of Saurashtra, north Gujarat and central Gujarat. The language is found as a mother tongue only in the districts of Bharuch, Surat, Valsad and The Dangs. Surat again leads in this regard with 7.60 per cent of its population speaking Chodhari as a mother tongue. Bharuch district ranks next with

0.25 per cent, followed by The Dangs district with 0.12 per cent and Valsad district with 0.02 per cent.

Bhili or Bhilodi

Finally we may take the case of Bhili or Bhilodi. Like Chodhari, Gamti or Gamit and Kokna or Kokni, this is also a tribal language and is again by and large restricted to south Gujarat. There is a complete absence of persons claiming this language as a mother tongue in Jamnagar, Rajkot, Surendranagar, Bhavnagar, Amreli, Junagadh, Kutch, Banas Kantha, Sabar Kantha, Mahesana and Gandhinagar districts. Negligible proportions of the population of Ahmadabad, Kheda and Panch Mahals districts do, however, speak Bhili or Bhilodi as a mother tongue. Bharuch district, where 5.02 per cent of the population speaks Bhili or Bhilodi as a mother tongue, is the main concentration for this language, followed by Surat, 3.23 per cent. In both Valsad and Vadodara 0.01 per cent of the population has this language as a mother tongue and for The Dangs the figure is 0.03 per cent.

We have already seen that 98.03 per cent of the total population of the State speaks one or the other of these 10 languages as a mother tongue in varying proportions. However, the full list of mother tongues in Gujarat returned at the 1971 Census consists of 172 names. There are therefore 162 other mother tongues which have not figured in our discussion so far. The proportion of the population speaking one or the other of these remaining 162 mother tongues is indeed very small and comes to 1.97 per cent of the total population of the State. Therefore nearly 2 out of every 100 persons in the State claim a

mother tongue other than these 10 languages which we have discussed. Most of these mother tongues are spoken by a very few people, their numbers sometimes being as low as 1 or 2. Some of these are not even recognized as languages. There are 45 such languages spoken in the Gujarat where the number of speakers are less than 10. These languages are African (4), Algerian (3), Angami (1), Ardhamagadhi (8), Bahawalpuri (3), Basque (2), Bhadrawahi (3), Bado/Boro (1), Bundel Khandi (4), Catalan (2), Congolese (2), Cyprus (1), Egyptian (1), Finish (2), Garo (1), Hmar (1), Japanese (6), Jati/Jatu (2), Khasi (3), Konda (4), Kurukh/Oraon (9), Ladakhi (2), Madari (7), Malay (2), Malagasy (2), Mandeali (2), Mewati (2), Munda (8), Nimadi (2), Pnar/Synteng (4), Rajgondi (7), Rajwari (4), Rangari (5), Russian (2), Santali (6), Shekhawati (5), Samali (2), Swahili (9), Swedish (2), Tadavi (5), Teli (7), Turkish/Turkistani (7), Yoruba (4) and Yugoslavian (2).

One observation that may be made here is that the higher the proportion of the population classed under 'Other mother tongue', the greater is the number and variety of the languages or mother tongues bound to be in the concerned areas. For example, the bulk of the population in Amreli district is accounted for by Gujarati, Hindi Kachchhi, Marathi, Sindhi and Urdu, leaving only 0.08 per cent of the population under the last group that we discussed. This means that the proportion of 'other languages' that there are likely to be spoken in this district as mother tongues is bound to be very few. This is correct; Amreli district returned only 27 mother tongues at the latest Census. On the other hand, The Dangs district has only 18.73 per cent of its population accounted for by one or the other of the 10 main languages. 81.27

per cent of the population speaks other mother tongues which are not among the 10 numerically strongest. This district returned a total of 42 mother tongues.

Another interesting aspect of the matter to which we may refer is the lingual composition of the cities. The tribal group of languages is almost entirely absent as a mother tongue in the cities except for the one mother tongue Kokna or Kokni. The bulk of the population in all the cities is Gujarati speaking, followed in order of numerical strength, by Urdu in the case of Ahmadabad and Surat cities, Marathi in the case of Vadodara city, Sindhi in the case of Rajkot and Bhavnagar cities, Kachchhi in the case of Jamnagar and Urdu in the case of Nadiad city. The third most numerically strongest language in the case of these cities is Hindi in the case of Ahmadabad and Rajkot cities, Marathi in the case of Surat city, Urdu in the case of Vadodara city, Sindhi in the case of Jamnagar city, Hindi in the case of Bhavnagar city and Sindhi in the case of Nadiad city. Taking the proportion of the population claimed by each of the three main languages spoken as mother tongue in the various cities would provide an interesting insight into their metropolitan nature or otherwise. The percentage of the population accounted for by Gujarati and the next two numerically strongest languages in the cities of Gujarat is as follows:

STATEMENT VI.5

Three numerically strongest mother tongues with their percentages to total population returned in each city of the State, 1971

<i>City</i>	<i>Mother tongues</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1 Ahmadabad	Gujarati	70.75
	Urdu	11.65
	Hindi	8.64

<i>City</i>	<i>Mother tongues</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
2 Surat	Gujarati	76.47
	Urdu	11.48
	Marathi	6.57
3 Vadodara	Gujarati	67.91
	Marathi	13.38
	Urdu	6.25
4 Rajkot	Gujarati	94.66
	Sindhi	2.05
	Hindi	1.10
5 Jamnagar	Gujarati	87.45
	Kachchhi	3.20
	Sindhi	2.85
6 Bhavnagar	Gujarati	93.97
	Sindhi	3.76
	Hindi	0.61
7 Nadiad	Gujarati	87.60
	Urdu	2.69
	Sindhi	2.62

The last point that we may now discuss in respect of this subject is as to whether or not there is any variation between the proportions of the rural and urban populations that speak one or the other of these mother tongues that we have been discussing.

At the State level we find that there is some variation in the proportion of the rural and urban speakers in respect of the Gujarati, Kachchhi, Kokni, Gamti, Chodhari and Bhilodi languages, the proportion of the rural speakers being higher than that of the urban speakers. In the case of Hindi, Marathi, Sindhi and Urdu the proportion of urban speakers is higher than that of the rural speakers. It would be seen from this that, in general where the mother tongues or languages are native to Gujarat the proportion of rural speakers is higher than that of urban speakers,

the reverse being true in the case of languages not native to Gujarat. This overall pattern reflects itself at the district level also. Restricting ourselves to the numerically important languages we see that the proportion of rural speakers having Gujarati as their mother tongue is in all cases higher than the proportion of urban speakers with the same mother tongue in all districts. But in the districts where the proportion of urban speakers with Gujarati as the mother tongue is higher, the rural population is getting divided among the minor mother tongues. Taking the example of Hindi next, which is a non-native language, in all cases except Gandhinagar the proportion of urban speakers of this mother tongue is higher than the proportion of rural speakers. This is equally true of Marathi, Urdu and Sindhi. Among the tribal group of languages we may take Kokna or Kokni as an interesting example of a slight variation from the general pattern. In respect of this mother tongue no uniform pattern obtains in all the districts where Kokna-speaking population is found. In some districts the proportion of rural speakers of this mother tongue is higher than the urban speakers while in other cases the reverse is true. At the State level itself the proportion of rural speakers of this language is higher than the urban speakers. However in such districts as Jamnagar, Surendranagar, Bhavnagar, Gandhinagar and Ahmadabad the proportion of urban speakers of this mother tongue is higher than the proportion of rural speakers. On the other hand, in Surat and Valsad districts the proportion of urban speakers of Kokna or Kokni is considerably lower than the rural speakers. The incidence of population speaking this language as a mother tongue is mainly restricted to south

Gujarat, and there also in the rural areas. It follows therefore that, wherever Kokni speakers are found in large numbers in urban areas in other regions, they represent the migrant population gravitating towards the urban centres in search of employment or livelihood or other pursuits not available in the rural centres. This general pattern repeats itself in respect of the other tribal languages also.

In Chapter VII we will now next look at the religions we follow.

CHAPTER VII

THE RELIGIONS WE FOLLOW

INDIA IS a secular democratic Republic. In this it is different from its own immediate neighbour, Pakistan, or some of the other countries of the world which are theocratic States. That is to say that these States adopt and accept one religion as the State religion. In India, on the other hand, freedom of religious belief is an article of faith and is guaranteed by our Constitution as much by the spirit of its preamble as by the specific provisions of the Constitution in this regard. Thus, we have no such thing as a State religion and all our religions are looked upon as equal.

In this chapter, we will be discussing our various religions and the numerical strength of these various faiths according to the number of people following them. We shall first examine briefly the religious composition of the national population and then, in greater detail, that of the population of our State.

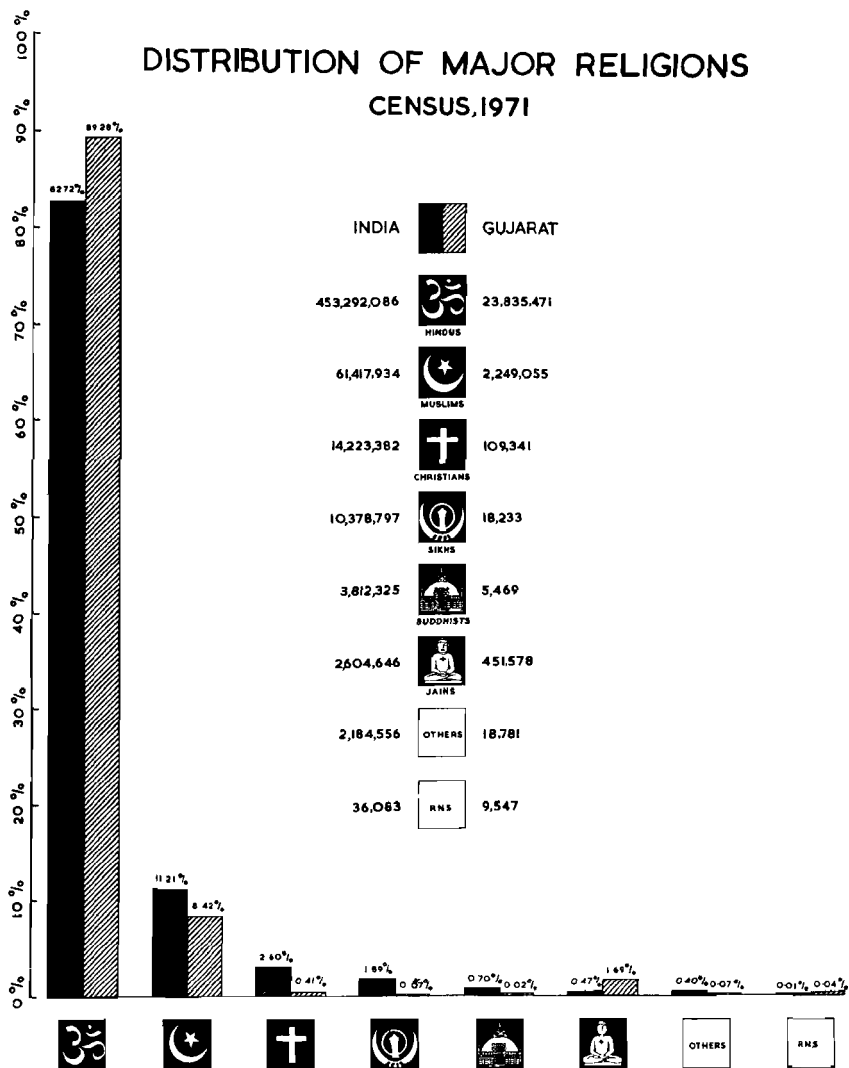
Out of the total national population of India of 547,949,809 people, Hindus constitute the largest single majority with a population of 453,292,086. The next largest religious group in the country consists of the Muslims or those following the Islamic faith. The Muslim population in India comes to 61,417,934. Between themselves these two religions account for 93.93 per cent of the total national population. The Hindus comprise 82.72 per cent of the total population while the Muslims comprise 11.21 per cent. This means that nearly 83 persons out of every 100 persons in the country are Hindus

and 11 persons out of every 100 are Muslims. The remaining approximately 6.07 per cent of the population is divided mainly among the other four major religions of the country. Christians form the third largest religious group in the country with a total population of 14,223,382, which is 2.60 per cent of the total population. Sikhism is the fourth numerically strongest religion and the people following this faith number 10,378,797 persons, which is 1.89 per cent of the total population. The fifth largest group is of the people following Buddhism. You will remember that India was the birth place of the Buddha, The Enlightened One as also of Buddhism, the religion which was founded after him. Presently, however, the Buddhists form but a small minority of the national population and even though India was the birth place of Buddhism our country is no longer the strongest seat of this religion. The number of Buddhists at the 1971 Census is 3,812,325, which is 0.70 per cent of the total national population. Jainism, which was also first founded in India, claims a population of 2,604,646. This represents 0.47 per cent of the total national population.

These are the six main religions of our country. All the other remaining religions which have been returned at the last Census, (and there are quite a few of these), claim a total population of 2,184,556. This represents 0.40 per cent of the national population. 36,083 people did not state their religion at the last Census. These comprise 0.01 per cent of our total population.

At the level of the State the proportion of the population of Gujarat claimed by each of these religions as compared to the total State population is slightly different from the pattern observed at the national level. While

DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR RELIGIONS CENSUS, 1971



0.70 per cent of the total national population is Buddhist, at the State level the proportion is only 0.02 per cent. This means that as compared to the national population where 7 persons out of every 1,000 are Buddhists, in the State population only 2 persons out of every 10,000 are Buddhists. The Christian minority in Gujarat similarly accounts for a lower proportion of the State population than is the case at the national level. While at the all-India level the percentage of Christians to the total population is 2.60, that at the State level in our own State is 0.41. As regards Hinduism, a larger proportion of the total State population follows this faith than the proportion of the total national population. While the proportion of Hindus at the national level is 82.72 per cent that at the State level is 89.28 per cent. The same is the case with Jainism. 1.69 per cent of the total population of the State is Jain as compared to 0.47 per cent at the national level. As regards Islam 8.42 per cent of the State population follows this faith as compared to 11.21 per cent of the national population. The Sikhs in Gujarat are one of the smaller minorities. They account for 0.07 per cent of the State population. Other religious persuasions also accounted for 0.07 per cent of the total State population while, the proportion of those not stating any religion at all was 0.04 per cent. The actual distribution of the population against each of these groups in respect of our State is as follows:

STATEMENT VII.1

Number of followers of religions and their percentages to total population of the State, 1971

<i>Religion</i>	<i>Number of followers</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Buddhism	5,469	0.02

<i>Religion</i>	<i>Number of followers</i>	<i>Per- centage</i>
Christianity	109,341	0.41
Hinduism	23,835,471	89.28
Islam	2,249,055	8.42
Jainism	451,578	1.69
Sikhism	18,233	0.07
Other religions and persuasions	18,781	0.07
Religion not stated	9,547	0.04

Let us next examine the religious composition of the population of the districts. Since Hinduism is the predominant religion and is separated by a vast margin from the second most predominant religion it follows that this predominance in numbers will also be reflected in the districts as well. The Dangs district leads in this regard, for 97.55 per cent of the population of this district is Hindu. In Panch Mahals and Valsad districts more than 94 per cent of the population follows this faith while in the districts of Amreli and Sabar Kantha 93 per cent of the population is Hindu. In Gandhinagar district more than 96 per cent of the population follows this religion. The next in rank are Mahesana district with over 92 per cent, Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Banas Kantha and Vadodara districts with over 90 per cent, Surendranagar and Surat districts with over 89 per cent, Rajkot and Kheda districts with over 88 per cent and Jamnagar and Ahmadabad districts with over 84 per cent each. In Bharuch district the proportion of the Hindu population to the total population is 82.68 per cent, nearly equal to the State level average while in Kutch district the figure is below the State level average at 74.56 per cent. The comparatively lower proportion of Hindus in Kutch is accounted for by

the proportionately higher percentage of Muslims in that district.

The next largest religious group is that of Muslims. The Muslim population of the State accounts for 8.42 per cent of the total population. The proportion of Muslims to the total district population is highest in Kutch. In Bharuch, Jamnagar and Ahmadabad districts the Muslim population represents respectively 16.16, 12.13 and 11.02 per cent population of the total district population. Next in rank is the group of districts where the proportion of the Muslim population to the total population is more than 9 per cent. These are comprised of the districts of Rajkot, Junagadh and Kheda. Surat, Vadodara and Banas Kantha come next with the Muslim population of each of these districts being over 7 per cent of the total population. These are followed by a group of districts where the proportion of the Muslim population to the total district population is 6 per cent or above in each case. These are the districts of Surendranagar, Bhavnagar and Mahesana. In all other districts the proportion of the Muslim population to the total population of the district is less than 6 per cent.

Jainism claims the third largest following in the population of the State. 1.69 per cent of the total State population follows this religion. The highest proportion of Jains as compared to the general population of the district is to be found in Kutch district where 6.72 per cent of the population follows this religion. Ahmadabad district ranks next with 3.57 per cent of its population following Jainism and Surendranagar comes third with 3.34 per cent. Other districts where the proportion

of the Jain population to the general population of the districts is 2 per cent or more but below 3 per cent are the districts of Jamnagar, Bhavnagar and Banas Kantha. In Rajkot, Sabar Kantha, Mahesana and Surat districts Jains represent above 1 per cent of the population but below 2 per cent. In all other districts the percentage of the population of Jains is below 1 per cent.

Christians account for 0.41 per cent of the total State population. Their largest concentration is in Kheda district which accommodates 39.51 per cent of the total Christian population of the State, followed by Ahmadabad district which accommodates 22.95 per cent of the Christian population of the State and by Surat which accommodates 6.94 per cent. Vadodara has 6.91 per cent of the total Christian population of the State while the other large concentration is in Panch Mahals with 5.69 per cent and Bharuch with 4.76 per cent. However where the question of the Christian population of a district in proportion to the total district population is concerned Kheda district is in lead. Here 1.76 per cent of the total district population is Christian. This is followed by The Dangs district with 0.98 per cent, Ahmadabad by 0.86 per cent and Bharuch with 0.47 per cent. In all other districts the proportion of Christians to the total district population is quite small.

A very negligible 0.02 per cent of the total State population is Buddhist. The number of Buddhists in Jamnagar, Surendranagar, Bhavnagar Banas Kantha, Sabar Kantha, Mahesana, Kheda and Panch Mahals districts is negligible. In Amreli district Buddhism is completely absent. Among the other districts Surat has the largest

proportion of Buddhists followed by Ahmadabad and Valsad districts. 54.71 per cent of the total Buddhist population of the State is to be found in Surat. Thus, more than half the Buddhist population of the State is concentrated in this one district. More than half of the remaining are concentrated in Ahmadabad and Valsad districts. Ahmadabad has 16.24 per cent and Valsad has 9.56 per cent of the total Buddhist population of the State. Vadodara with 5.28 per cent and Junagadh with 5.58 per cent are the other districts where there are significant numbers of Buddhists. However as regards the number of Buddhists as a proportion of the total district population the picture is slightly different. Surat district retains its first rank in this regard with 0.17 per cent of its population being Buddhist. Ahmadabad and Valsad are next in rank. In both of these districts the proportion of the Buddhist population to the general population is 0.03 per cent. They are followed by Junagadh district with 0.02 per cent. In all other districts the proportion of Buddhists to the total population of the district is insignificant.

The Sikhs account for 0.07 per cent of the total population of the State. In Ahmadabad they account for 0.20 per cent of the total district population, in Vadodara district, 0.13 per cent and in Valsad for 0.10 per cent. Jamnagar comes next with 0.09 per cent followed by Sabar Kantha district with 0.08 per cent.

We have seen the ranking of some of the districts as regards the proportion of the total State population of any particular religion that they accommodate. Hinduism being numerically the most predominant, the distribution

of those following the Hindu faith is fairly even throughout the districts. As regards Jainism the districts of main concentration are Ahmadabad, Kutch, Bhavnagar, Rajkot and Banas Kantha. Jamnagar and Surendranagar districts claim a nearly equal share of Jains between themselves. The largest population of Muslims is claimed by Ahmadabad district followed by Kheda, Bharuch, Kutch, Vadodara, Rajkot, Junagadh, Surat and Jamnagar districts in that order.

The religious composition of the rural and urban populations shows slight differences. With the exception of Kutch district, a higher proportion of the rural population follows Hinduism than does in the urban population. In Kutch district, the reverse is true. The reverse is the case in respect of the Christian population in all districts. In the districts of Ahmadabad and Kheda the urban Christians represent a higher proportion of the total urban population than do the rural Christians as a proportion of the total rural population of the district. In respect of the Muslims the same is true. In all districts the proportion of urban Muslims as a proportion of the total urban population is higher than that of rural Muslims as a proportion of the total rural population. In Kutch district the proportion of rural and urban Muslims to the total rural and urban population respectively is nearly equal, although even here the urban rural ratio conforms to the general pattern but by a very much smaller margin. The same is also true in the case of Jainism except in the case of Kutch district. In Kutch 7 per cent of the total district rural population is Jains as against 5.89 per cent of the total district urban population.

The distribution of the Buddhists in the State being by and large patchy and uneven rural urban differentials with regard to distribution do not offer any meaningful study. Lastly as regards the Sikhs, the proportion of urban Sikhs to the total urban population is invariably higher than that of rural Sikhs to the total rural population in all cases except in the case of Sabar Kantha district where the reverse is true.

It would be quite interesting to also examine the religious composition of our cities and some of our largest towns. You may perhaps know that an urban centre with a population of 100,000 or more is classified as a city. Until the 1961 Census Gujarat had six such urban centres that enjoyed the status of a city. At the 1971 Census Nadiad has joined the ranks of the cities of Gujarat and the present total of cities in Gujarat thus goes up to 7. The largest of these is Ahmadabad city with a population of 1,591,832. The smallest is Nadiad city with a population of 108,269. The remaining cities of Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Vadodara and Surat have a population range of 200,000 and above from between 200,000 to 400,000 and above but less than 500,000. Between themselves the cities present a quite interesting religious composition. None of them have a significant Buddhists population. The number of Buddhists is higher in Ahmadabad city where 811 Buddhists live. Surat city is next with 299 and Vadodara third with 178. In Rajkot the number is 26 and in Jamnagar 22. Nadiad city has only 2 Buddhists and Bhavnagar has only 9. Their number in the cities as a proportion of the population as a whole is therefore very insignificant.

Christians, on the other hand, are to be found in comparatively more significant proportions in some of the cities. Ahmadabad has 20,872 Christians and they account for 1.31 per cent of the total population of the city. The proportion of Christians in Vadodara city to the total population of that city is even higher. The number of Christians here is 6,195 which is 1.33 per cent of the total population of the city. The largest proportion of Christians is however in Nadiad city which has 3,959 Christians who represent 3.66 per cent of the total population of Nadiad. Jamangar has 1,195 Christians and Rajkot has 1,240 accounting respectively for 0.56 per cent and 0.41 per cent of the total population of these two cities respectively. In Surat the number of Christians is 1,964 which is thus higher than the number of those in Rajkot and Jamanagar. But as a proportion of the total population of Surat the Christian population accounts for only 0.42 per cent. Finally Bhavnagar has only 725 Christians representing 0.32 per cent of the total population of Bhavnagar city.

The main concentration of Sikhs in the cities of the State is in Ahmadabad and Vadodara cities. Ahmadabad city has a population of 4,686 Sikhs and Vadodara of 2,080. The Sikh population of Vadodara accounts for 0.44 per cent of the total population of the city while that of Ahmadabad accounts for only 0.29 per cent of the total population of that city. Among the other cities the highest population of Sikhs is to be found in Jamnagar where 632 Sikhs live. The number of Sikhs in Rajkot is 322, that in Bhavnagar is 253, that in Surat is 210 and that in Nadiad is 89.

Jainism is represented by a comparatively larger numerical strength than in all these other religions which we have discussed so far. Ahmadabad, Bhavnagar and Jamnagar cities have a Jain population which accounts for more than 5 per cent of the total population of each city. In Rajkot the proportion of Jains to the total population is 4.90 per cent. Though Surat city has a higher population of Jains than Jamnagar its proportion to the total population of Surat is less than that in the case of Jamnagar. The Jains of Surat city number 12,303 and account for 2.61 per cent of the total population of that city as against 12,093 Jains in Jamnagar city who account for 5.63 per cent of the population of Jamnagar. In Nadiad the population of Jains is 1,020 accounting for 0.94 per cent of the total population of Nadiad. The Jain population of Vadodara is 8,854 and this accounts for 1.89 per cent of the total population of Vadodara city. The number of Jains in Ahmadabad city is 86,347, that in Rajkot city is 14,717 and that in Bhavnagar city is 12,365.

Finally we may come to Hinduism and Islam, the two numerically strongest religions in the State as well as in the cities. Let us take Islam first. The highest number of Muslims is to be found in Ahmadabad city, followed by Surat, Vadodara, Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Rajkot and Nadiad in that order. However, it is Jamnagar city which ranks first in terms of the proportion of the Muslim population to the total population of the city, followed by Surat, Ahmadabad, Nadiad, Bhavnagar, Vadodara and Rajkot cities in that order. The Muslim population of each of these cities and the proportion of the

total population of the city that this represents is as follows :

STATEMENT VII.2

Ranking of cities of the State according to the proportion of Muslim population to total population 1971

<i>City</i>	<i>Number of Muslims</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1 Jamnagar	42,442	19.76
2 Surat	80,421	17.05
3 Ahmadabad	231,379	14.54
4 Nadiad	14,168	13.09
5 Bhavnagar	28,099	12.44
6 Vadodara	55,422	11.86
7 Rajkot	23,269	7.74

Lastly, let us take the case of the Hindu population. Since the size of the total population of each of the cities varies considerably between the two extremes, it is natural that the total number of Hindus in any city will vary accordingly also. It would therefore be more interesting to discuss Hindu population of these cities as a proportion of the total population of each city. Examining it in this light Rajkot city ranks first followed by Vadodara, Nadiad, Bhavnagar, Surat, Ahmadabad and Jamnagar cities in that order. We can take it that the higher the proportion of a single religious group in any city the narrower is the field of diversity in the religious composition of that city. Thus, Rajkot city ranks first with 86.71 per cent of its population following the Hindu religion while Ahmadabad city ranks sixth with 78.19 per cent. This indicates that Ahmadabad city would present a more diverse religious composition than Rajkot city. The size of the Hindu population in each of these cities and the proportion of

the total population of the city that this represents is as follows. The listing below is done according to rank by proportion of the Hindu population to the total population of the city.

STATEMENT VII.3

Ranking of cities of the State according to the proportion of Hindu population to total population, 1971

<i>City</i>	<i>Number of Hindus</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Rajkot	260,664	86.71
Vadodara	392,728	84.01
Nadiad	88,975	82.18
Bhavnagar	184,006	81.43
Surat	372,181	78.91
Ahmadabad	1,244,639	78.19
Jamnagar	158,347	73.71

Let us next briefly look at the religious composition of some of our main towns. The 10 largest towns of Gujarat after the cities and in order of rank are Porbandar, Junagadh, Bharuch, Navsari, Godhra, Surendranagar, Patan, Cambay, Morvi and Dhoraji. The population of each of these is as follows:

STATEMENT VII.4

10 largest towns next to cities in the State arranged in descending order according to their population, 1971

<i>Town</i>	<i>Population</i>
Porbandar	96,881
Junagadh	95,900
Bharuch	92,251
Navsari	72,979
Godhra	66,853

<i>Town</i>	<i>Population</i>
Surendranagar	66,667
Patan	64,519
Cambay	62,097
Morvi	60,976
Dhoraji	60,080

None of these towns except Junagadh, Bharuch and Morvi have any Buddhists population at all. In Junagadh, Bharuch and Morvi the Buddhists population is only 8, 5 and 1 persons respectively. Though Sikhism is better represented nowhere is their number higher than 650. Godhra has the largest number of Sikhs with 646 persons of this religion being found there. There are 170 Sikhs in Navsari town and 158 in Junagadh. In Bharuch their number is 147. In all the others the number of Sikhs is below 100, the lowest being 21 Sikhs in both Porbandar and Patan towns. Christianity is even less well represented, though the porportion of Christian as well as their number in Bharuch town is higher than that of Jains in the same town. Bharuch has 996 Christians representing 1.08 per cent of the total population of the town as against 984 Jains representing 1.07 per cent of the total population of the town. In all other cases, however, the number of Christians and their proportion to the total population of the towns is small. Godhra has the second largest Christian population with 484, followed, by Cambay with (357), Junagadh (240), Navsari (211), Surendranagar (174), Porbandar (163), Morvi (33), Patan (15) and Dhoraji (4).

Thus we see that by and large the population of our 10 largest towns is predominantly comprised of Hindus

Muslims and Jains in that order of numerical strength. Porbandar, Patan and Navsari rank among the first three in terms of the highest proportion of the Hindu population while Godhra, Dhoraji and Bharuch towns have that ranking in respect of the Muslim population. As regards the Jain population Surendranagar town is in the lead followed by Cambay and Morvi towns in second and third place. The size of the Hindu, Muslim and Jain population of each of these towns and the proportion of each group as a proportion of the total population of each town is as follows. (See statement VII-5)

Let us finally now examine the trends that the religious composition of the population shows in the light of the comparative picture between the 1961 Census and the 1971 Census. The results of the two Censuses show an increase in the proportion of the population following Buddhism, Hinduism and Sikhism and a decrease under all other groups. Where in 1961 there was 1 Buddhist for every 10,000 persons of the population, in 1971 this has now gone up to 2. In respect of Hinduism, where in 1961 there were 8,896 Hindus per every 10,000 population, the number of Hindus per every 10,000 population at the 1971 Census is 8,928. As regards Sikhism the increase is from 5 Sikhs per 10,000 population in 1961 to 7 Sikhs per 10,000 population in 1971. Under all other heads the proportionate composition of the religious groups has shown a decline. The number of Christians has gone down from 44 per 10,000 population in 1961 to 41 Christians per 10,000 population in 1971. In the case of Islam the decline is from 846 Muslims in 1961 to 842 Muslims in 1971 per 10,000 population. In the case of Jainism the decline is from 199 to 169 per 10,000 of population. The

STATEMENT VII.5

Number of Hindus, Muslims and Jains and their percentages to the total population of each of the 10 largest towns next to cities of the State, 1971

Number of Hindus, Muslims and Jains and their percentage to the total population of each town										
Name of Town	Hindus			Muslims			Jains			
	Persons	Percentage	Persons	Percentage	Persons	Percentage	Persons	Percentage	Persons	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
1 Porbandar	.	.	.	86,235	89.01	9,087	9.38	1,249	1.29	1.29
2 Junagadh	.	.	.	72,702	75.81	20,241	21.11	2,249	2.35	2.35
3 Bharuch	.	.	.	63,472	68.80	26,110	28.30	984	1.07	1.07
4 Navsari	.	.	.	59,796	81.94	8,036	11.01	2,355	3.23	3.23
5 Godhra	.	.	.	37,967	56.79	26,146	39.11	1,571	2.35	2.35
6 Surendranagar	.	.	.	46,733	70.10	8,771	13.16	10,874	16.31	16.31
7 Patan	.	.	.	53,589	83.06	7,232	11.21	3,648	5.66	5.66
8 Cambay	.	.	.	45,239	72.85	12,457	20.06	3,885	6.26	6.26
9 Morvi	.	.	.	47,476	77.86	9,683	15.88	3,693	6.06	6.06
10 Dhoraji	.	.	.	35,931	59.81	22,381	37.25	1,690	2.81	2.81

number of persons who returned religions and persuasions other than these six major religions has gone down from 9 per 10,000 population in 1961 to 7 in 1971. . Finally, where in 1961 the number of those not stating their religion at all was very insignificant, at 1971 4 persons out of every 10,000 did not return their religion. The possible reasons that account for these various shifts and differences in the religious composition of the population at the two Censuses are bound to be numerous and complex and no conclusion could be arrived at without a separate inquiry being made into the subject. This is not our purpose here and we must therefore leave the subject now, satisfying ourselves only with the facts as we find them.

But one last aspect that we may cover before concluding this chapter is the question of religions and persuasions other than the six main religions which we have discussed. As we have already seen, 9 persons out of every 10,000 in 1961 followed religions or persuasions other than the six main religions. The number of such persons in 1971 has gone down to 7 out of every 10,000. The question may therefore well arise as to what these other religion and persuasions are and whether there are any that claim significant proportions of the populations. Since at the State level only 7 out of every 10,000 people in the State follow religions other than the six main religions it stands to reason that the number of those following any particular religion outside the six main religions will be insignificant. Most of these other religions are no more than sects or off-shoots of the main one but for various sets of reasons going under different names. But they do not by any means represent fully evolved or even well-developed

religious systems having any significant following. There is, of course, one exception. This is in the case of Zoroastrianism, the religion of the Parsis. The 1971 Census found 22 other names returned as religions or religious persuasions apart from the six main religions that we have discussed. The largest single group is that of Zoroastrians. Their number in the State is 15,131, which represents 0.056 per cent of the total State population. This means that one person out of every 100,000 in the State is a follower of Zoroastrianism.

Among the other 21 names there is none which commands a significant following. How localised and insignificant these are in the context of the religious composition of the population as a whole can be appreciated from the fact that after Zoroastrianism the next two in ranking according to size of population are listed as A.C. and Atheist. The religion returned as A.C. posed something of a problem as to its identity. An inquiry was therefore made among the people returning this religion mainly from Surat and Valsad districts of South Gujarat. They were found to belong to a community describing itself as Sati Patis and explained that the letters A.C. stood for Ante-Christ and that their religion pre-dates the Christian Era. What this religion is was never fully clear. There were only 2,194 persons who returned this religion. The next largest group under these other miscellaneous religious persuasions is that of those who returned Atheist as their religion. Actually, this is not therefore a religion return in the normal sense. Atheism means non-belief in the existence of God.

CHAPTER VIII

SCHEDULED CASTES AND TRIBES

WE HAVE so far been discussing mainly the general population of our State. Let us in this chapter take a look at a specific section of our people that are of special concern to society.

You will no doubt remember reading or hearing stories which had references to Indian society being divided into specific classes with each class having a special pre-determined role to play. You will also remember that the division recognised mainly the Brahmin Kshatriya, Vaishya and Shudra classes and that the role of each of these classes in society was rigidly defined. You will therefore be able to understand how in a tradition bound and conservative society like ours such of the classes as were condemned by custom to perform menial roles came to be looked down upon in society and how it was inevitable that for a long time they were condemned to fulfil only these limited roles which ancient custom prescribed for them. You will also no doubt at once see that there is something wrong in condemning any group of people to performing only certain limited roles and not permitting them the scope for advancing and a greater fulfilment from life. It is mainly these groups condemned by custom to backwardness that the Constitution of free India recognised as Scheduled Castes and made special provision to protect them from exploitation and to guarantee them equality in all matters with the rest of the population. As the list of such Castes was made in a separate schedule, they came to be known as Scheduled Castes.

Finally you will also perhaps remember the many stories that you may have heard or read in which the heroes of our legends seemed constantly to move from place to place on this vast sub-continent either in the pursuit of love or war or other such matters and how communities of people living in the hills and forests invariably figure in their exploits. Such isolated communities have been a very real feature in the history of the races of India. For long generations they have lived isolated self-contained lives, cut off from civilisation as it was then known, developing cultures, societies and economies as best suited their genius and their environment. As more and more progress came to be made and other civilised societies moved and extended into these until then isolated areas they came in touch with the original inhabitants of these areas and took advantage of their relative backwardness to exploit them for their own aims and ends. Today we know these once isolate communities mainly as the Scheduled Tribes. As the list of such tribes was recorded in a separate schedule under the Constitution, they have come to be known as Scheduled Tribes.

Together, the Scheduled Castes and Tribes represent those sections of our society which have been traditionally, socially and economically backward and which have, for that reason, suffered several generations of exploitation. They are described as being "Scheduled" because detailed provision as to such protected areas and castes and tribes is made in a schedule (Fifth Schedule) to the Constitution. When India gained her freedom the Constitution of our country recognised the existence of such backward and exploited communities in the fabric of our society and made

specific and special provisions not only to prevent their further social and economic exploitation but also to promote their growth and development and to guarantee them equality in all matters along with the other citizen of the country. The promotion of the educational and economic interest of the weaker sections of our people and their protection from social injustice and all forms of exploitation became one of the directive principles of our Constitution. Article 46 of the Constitution provide that "the State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interest of the weaker sections of the people and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitations". Our Constitution in this manner made it compulsory for the State to take special interest in the fate of the weaker sections of our society and to promote their growth and welfare. Among these weaker sections the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been particularly included. One whole part of the Constitution, Part XVI, later goes on to make special provisions relating to certain classes mainly the Anglo-Indians and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These special provisions include, in so far as the Scheduled Castes and Tribes are concerned, the reservation of Parliamentary and Assembly seats to obtain suitable representation for these social groups in the law-making bodies and in the matter of employment in Government. Provision is also made for the appointment of a commission to investigate the condition of backward classes from time to time and to make recommendations for the improvement of the condition of these communities. It also empowers the President to specify

castes, races or tribes or their parts or groups as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is under this last provision that certain specific Scheduled Castes and Tribes have been recognised by being "Scheduled" in the Constitution and are given protection under the Constitution. These castes and tribes are separately notified for each State and Union Territory and for each district in the States and Territories. Only those castes and tribes which have been recognised as Scheduled Castes and Tribes by becoming "Scheduled" in the Constitution are treated as Scheduled Castes or Tribes for the purpose of the Constitution and are entitled to the protection and benefits of the various provisions of the Constitution relating to these castes and tribes.

How is a Scheduled Caste or Tribe recognised by the President? The Constitution has not expressly prescribed any principles or policy for drawing up lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. However, there are indications in the Constitution that extreme social, educational and economic backwardness would qualify a caste or a tribe to be included in these lists.

The relevant records show that in drawing up the list of Scheduled Castes, the test applied was the social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of the historical custom of untouchability. The list of Scheduled Castes drawn in 1950 was a revised version of the list of Scheduled Castes under the Government of India, (Scheduled Caste) Order, 1936 made under the Government of India Act, 1935, which, in turn, was the continuation of the earlier list of depressed classes. The depressed classes, it is well known, were systematically categorised

in 1931 by the Census Commissioner for India who had given the following instructions for the purpose of such categorisation:—

“I have explained depressed castes as castes, contact with whom entails purification on the part of high caste Hindus. It is not intended that the term should have any reference to occupation as such but to those castes which by reasons of their traditional position in Hindu society are denied access to temples, for instance, or have to use separate wells or are not allowed to sit inside a school house but have to remain outside or suffer similar social disabilities.”

Thus in the matter of Scheduled Castes, the criterion is clear. Untouchability is the criterion and it being peculiar to the Hindus, those Hindu castes that were regarded as untouchables by society are included in that particular Schedule. Non-Hindus cannot be included in it.

The specification of tribes and tribal communities as Scheduled Tribes present some problems. Even the social scientists have found it difficult to evolve a universally acceptable definition for a tribe. The difficulty in setting out formal criteria for defining a tribe arises from the fact that the tribes in India are, and have been for some decades, tribes in transition. The first serious attempt to list “primitive tribes” was, as in the case of depressed castes, made at the Census of 1931. Subsequently under the Government of India Act, 1935, a list of ‘backward tribes’ was specified for the Provinces of India. The list of Scheduled Tribes was prepared in 1950 by making additions to the list of backward tribes under the Government of India Act, 1935. In considering fresh proposals care

was taken to ensure that tribes which had assimilated in the general population or communities which were not really primitive are not included.

The Scheduled Tribes can be generally ascertained by the fact that they live apart in hills, and even where they live on the plains, they lead a separate, excluded existence and are not fully assimilated in the main body of the people. Scheduled Tribes may belong to any religion. They are listed as Scheduled Tribes because of the kind of life led by them.

The Government of India had decided to set up an Advisory Committee on the revision of lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under Department of Social Security Resolution No. F 12/3/65-SCT-IV dated 1st June, 1963. The Committee has already submitted the report to the Government of India which is under consideration. In revising the list of Scheduled Tribes, they have looked for indications of primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large and backwardness.

The Census has always taken a keen and deep interest in the various castes and tribes and communities of India. More recently it has ceased to interest itself in the caste communities as such since such an interest forms no part of its main work but, in view of society's special interest in the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, has continued to collect data on these castes and tribes. From what we have said so far you will appreciate that Scheduled Castes and Tribes are notified under a Presidential Order for each State or local area. Such listing is done by notification by a Presidential Order under the provisions of the Constitution.

The Census enumerates as Scheduled Castes and Tribes only those communities as are entitled to be so enumerated in the various local areas.

At the 1971 Census the population of Scheduled Castes in the State was 1,825,432 and that of Scheduled Tribes was 3,734,422. The Scheduled Castes thus represent 6.84% of the total State population and the Scheduled Tribes represent 13.99 per cent of the total State population. This means that nearly 7 out of every 100 persons in the State are members of one Scheduled Caste or the other and that nearly 14 out of every 100 people in the State are members of one Scheduled Tribe or the other. The proportion of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes population in the State to the total population is therefore considerable, since nearly 21 persons out of every 100 in the State are members of either a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe. As compared to this the Scheduled Castes population of the country as a whole is 79,995,896 and that of the Scheduled Tribes is 38,015,162. Thus the Scheduled Castes population of the country represents 14.60 per cent of the total national population and the Scheduled Tribes population represents 6.94 per cent of the national population. This proportion is nearly reversed in case of our State. This means that nearly 15 persons out of every 100 in the country are members of one or the other Scheduled Castes and nearly 7 persons out of every 100 in the country are members of one or the other Scheduled Tribes. Taken together, nearly 22 persons out of every 100 in the country are members of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe.

Comparing the figures for the whole country and those for Gujarat a number of interesting features reveal

themselves. While at the level of the national population as a whole 22 persons out of every 100 are members of a Scheduled Caste or Tribe, in Gujarat 21 persons out of every 100 are members of a Scheduled Caste or Tribe. While at the national level the proportion of Scheduled Castes is higher than that of the Scheduled Tribes, in our State the reverse is true in almost exact inverse proportion. Where the proportion of Scheduled Castes in Gujarat to the total population is 6.84 per cent that at the national level is 14.60 per cent. On the other hand, the proportion of Scheduled Tribes to the total population of Gujarat is 13.99 per cent while that at the national level is 6.94 per cent.

It is a well known fact about our State that while Scheduled Castes may be found in all the districts of the State in varying degree the Scheduled Tribes in our State are mainly concentrated in a few tribal districts, particularly those of South Gujarat. The greatest concentration of Scheduled Castes as a proportion of the general population is in Ahmadabad and Surendranagar districts. In Ahmadabad district 10.93 per cent of the population belongs to the Scheduled Castes while in Surendranagar district 10.39 per cent of the population of the district is Scheduled Castes population. This means that nearly 11 out of every 100 persons in Ahmadabad district and ten out of every 100 persons in Surendranagar district are members of one or the other Scheduled Caste. The next highest concentration is in Banas Kantha and Kutch districts respectively. The Scheduled Castes population of Banas Kantha accounts for 9.85 per cent of the total district population and that of Kutch for 9.44 per cent of

the total district population. Banas Kantha's two neighbouring districts, Mahesana and Sabar Kantha, rank next. In Mahesana 8.96 per cent of the total district population is Scheduled Caste population while the figure for Sabar Kantha is 8.60 per cent. Amreli and Junagadh districts have a Scheduled Caste population ranging between 7 and 8 per cent while Gandhinagar, Jamnagar, Rajkot and Kheda districts have a Scheduled Caste population ranging between 6 and 7 per cent. The actual figures for Amreli and Junagadh districts are 7.46 per cent and 7.39 per cent respectively while those for Gandhinagar, Jamnagar, Rajkot and Kheda districts are 6.55 per cent, 6.48 per cent, 6.11 per cent and 6.05 per cent respectively. Of the remaining districts only Vadodara district has a Scheduled Caste population exceeding 5 per cent of the total district population. In the rest of the districts the proportion of the Scheduled Caste population to the total district population is less than 5 per cent. The details for each of the remaining districts are as follows:

<i>District</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Bharuch	4.82
Bhavnagar	4.51
Panch Mahals	3.68
Surat	3.56
Valsad	3.01
The Dangs	0.36

Thus, while the Scheduled Castes are to be found in varying degree of significance in all the districts of the State, the incidence of the Scheduled Tribes is more narrowly concentrated particularly in the districts of South Gujarat. The Dangs district, with 93.46 per cent of its population belonging to the Scheduled Tribes leads in this matter,

followed by Valsad with 54.33 per cent, Surat with 46.32 per cent, Bharuch with 43.88 per cent, Panch Mahals with 38.55 per cent and Vadodara with 23.89 per cent. This means that nearly 93 out of every 100 people in The Dangs 54 in Valsad, 46 in Surat, 44 in Bharuch, 39 in Panch Mahals and 24 in Vadodara belong to one or the other Scheduled Tribe. In Sabar Kantha the proportion of the Scheduled Tribe population to the general population is to the order of 15.06 per cent. Compared to these districts, the Scheduled Tribes population in Kutch and Banas Kantha where the Scheduled Tribes account for 4.75 per cent and 6.15 per cent respectively of the total population of each district is comparatively low. In all the other districts the incidence of Scheduled Tribe population is comparatively insignificant. In Kheda 1 out of every 100 persons is a member of Scheduled Tribes. As regards the remaining districts the number of persons belonging to one or the other Scheduled Tribe per every 10,000 population in the district is as follows:

Jamnagar	24
Rajkot	4
Surendranagar	57
Bhavnagar	1
Amreli	4
Junagadh	50
Mahesana	44
Gandhinagar	20
Ahmadabad	72

Since ours is still a largely rural society and since the proportion of the rural population is much higher than

that of the urban population, it also follows that the bulk of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes will be rural dwellers rather than urban dwellers. In the case of the Schedule Tribes there is another reason also. Since urban areas were not the original home of the Scheduled Tribes and since tribal cultures and habitations are by tradition essentially rural it follows that the proportion of Scheduled Tribes living in the rural areas is bound to be higher than of those in the urban areas. Just a little more than 73 out of every 100 members of the Scheduled Castes in the State live in rural areas and a little more than 27 persons out of every 100 live in the urban areas. All the districts except Ahmadabad conform to this general overall pattern. In Ahmadabad the reverse is, however, true. Only a little more than 33 out of every 100 persons of the Scheduled Castes in Ahmadabad district live in rural areas whereas above 66 out of every 100 Scheduled Castes persons live in the urban areas. While the rural-urban distribution of the Scheduled Castes population in Surat district conforms to the general overall pattern the margin of difference is much narrower.

As regards the Scheduled Tribes this general pattern of rural/urban distribution again repeat itself. However, there are some of the district in which the tribal population is insignificant. These areas abound mostly in the Saurashtra peninsula. If, however, the districts having the larger concentration of tribal population are taken into consideration it would be seen that the tribals are mostly located in the rural areas of the districts. The district-wise distribution of the rural/urban given hereunder would show that in Sabar Kantha, Panch Mahals, Vadodara, Bharuch, Surat and Valsad districts more than 90% of

the tribals live in the rural areas. All these are the districts with high concentration of tribal population.

For those of you who would be interested in the districtwise details of the rural/urban distribution of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes population a table is presented below showing the percentage distribution of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes population by rural and urban areas. The Dangs district is excluded from this list since it is entirely rural.

STATEMENT VIII.1

Rural/Urban distribution of Scheduled Caste and Tribe population as per cent of the total Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe population of the district

Name of district	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
1 Jamnagar . . .	68.16	31.84	77.17	22.83
2 Rajkot . . .	75.59	24.41	6.94	93.06
3 Surendranagar .	79.51	20.49	99.09	0.91
4 Bhavnagar . . .	70.78	29.22	18.13	81.87
5 Amreli . . .	88.10	11.90	86.92	13.08
6 Junagadh . . .	82.50	17.50	90.30	9.70
7 Kutch . . .	78.75	21.25	84.22	15.78
8 Banas Kantha . .	92.43	7.57	96.31	3.69
9 Sabar Kantha . .	95.02	4.98	99.05	0.95
10 Mahesana . . .	83.18	16.82	54.68	45.32
11 Gandhinagar . .	84.91	15.09	67.49	32.51

	1	2	3	4	5
12	Ahmadabad . . .	33.43	66.57	20.58	79.42
13	Kheda . . .	83.71	16.79	82.69	17.31
14	Panch Mahals . .	86.33	13.67	96.64	3.36
15	Vadodara . . .	75.02	24.98	95.95	4.05
16	Bharuch . . .	81.84	18.16	95.08	4.92
17	Surat . . .	57.66	42.34	92.83	7.17
18	Valsad . . .	78.46	21.54	91.97	8.03

One observation which we have made in an earlier part of this chapter is that the proportion of the Scheduled Tribe population to the total State population is higher in Gujarat than the proportion of the Scheduled Caste population to the total population and that this is indirectly inverse proportion to the picture at the all-India level where the reverse is true. It would therefore be worthwhile to have a brief look at the various individual Scheduled Castes and Tribes which have a significant population in the State.

The 1971 Census returned a total of 42 specific individual Scheduled Castes. The largest Scheduled Caste group in the State belongs to a group of synonymous castes which are classed under the names of Mahyavanshi, Dhed, Vankar or Maru Vankar. This group has a population of 510,256 and accounts for 27.95 per cent of the total Scheduled Caste population of the State and 1.91 per cent of the total population of the State. The next largest group consists of a large group of synonymous castes listed under 21 different names. This is a related group of castes

and includes the Bhambi, Asadaru, Asodi, Chamar, Hara-layya, Khalpa, Madig, Ranigar, Rohidas and Rohit castes, among others. This group has a total population of 321,835, which accounts for 17.63 per cent of the total Scheduled Caste population of the State and 1.21 per cent of the total population of the State. The third largest group consists of the Vankar, Dhed or Antyaj castes, which have a population of 239,917 and accounts for 13.14 per cent of the total Scheduled Caste population in the State and 0.90 per cent of the total population of the State. The names of some of the other important Scheduled Castes and the percentage each represents of the total Scheduled Caste population of the State and of the total State population are listed below.

STATEMENT VIII.2

Population and its percentage to total S/C population and total population of the State of eight important Scheduled Castes next to the three numerically strongest S/C groups in the State, 1971

Name of Scheduled Caste	Popu- lation	Percentage of the population to	
		Total Schedu- led Caste popu- lation	Total State popu- lation
1	2	3	4
Bhangi, Mehtar, Olgana, Rukhi, etc. .	181,572	9.95	0.68
Meghval	127,458	6.98	0.48
Chamar, Nalia or Rohit	87,428	4.79	0.33
Bhangi or Rukhi	48,399	2.65	0.18

1	2	3	4
Shenva, Chenva, Sedma or Rawat	45,343	2.48	0.17
Garoda or Garo	38,197	2.09	0.14
Meghval or Menghvar	21,591	1.18	0.08
Nadia or Hadi	12,862	0.70	0.05

Among the castes with a very small population are included Ager (15 persons), Chalvadi or Channayya (84), Chenna Dasar or Holaya Dasar (4), Halleer (13), Halsar or Haslar, Hulasvar or Halasvar (4), Holar or Valhar (11), Holaya or Holer (34), Lingader (9), Mukri (2), Mochi (69) and Shemalia (4).

Looking at the Scheduled Tribes in a similar manner we find that the 1971 Census returned a total of 30 specific individual Scheduled Tribes. Of these 16 have a population of 10,000 or more. The Bhil tribe is numerically the strongest with a population of 1,451,777 which accounts for 38.88 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribe population of the State and 5.44 per cent of the total State population. Actually this is a fairly large group of tribes which includes Bhil Garasia, Dholi Bhil, Dungri Bhil, Dungri Garasia, Mewasi Bhil, Rawal Bhil, Tadvil Bhil, Bhagalia, Bhilala, Pawra, Vasava and Vasave. The next largest group is that of the Dublas which also includes Talavias or Halpatis. This group has a population of 388,542, which accounts for 10.40 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribe population of the State and 1.46 per cent of the total State population. The Dhodias, who have a population of 358,970 which accounts for 9.61 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribe population and 1.35 per cent of the total State

population, constitute the third largest group. The Gamits or Gamtas, which includes the other synonymous tribes such as Gavit, Mavchi, Padvi and Valvi constitute the fourth largest group with a population of 276,419. They account for 7.40 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribes population of the State and 1.04 per cent of the total State population. The other tribes having a population of more than 1,00,000 are listed below in order of numerical strength. The population of each and the percentage that this represents of the total Scheduled Tribe population of the State and of the total State population are also shown.

STATEMENT VIII.3

Population and its percentage to total S/T population and total population of the State of 6 S/T groups having population more than 1 lac and next to 4 numerically strongest S/T groups in the State, 1971

Name of Scheduled Tribe	Population	Percentage of the population to	
		Total Scheduled Tribe population	Total State population
1	2	3	4
Naikda or Nayaka, including Choli-vala Nayaka, Kapadia Nayaka, Mota Nayaka & Nana Nayaka	234,946	6.29	0.88
Rathawa	192,650	5.16	0.72
Chaudhri	177,155	4.74	0.66
Kokna, Kokni, Kukna	146,768	3.93	0.55
Dhanka, including, Tadvi, Tetaria and Valvi	138,858	3.72	0.52
Varli	126,108	3.38	0.47

The other remaining six of the 16 tribes that have a population of above 10,000 are Patelia, Koli Dhor, etc., Vitolia, etc., Kunbi and Chodhara tribes. The population of each as well as its proportion to the total Scheduled Tribe population of the State and of the total population of the State are listed below in order of numerical strength.

STATEMENT VIII.4

Population and its percentages to total S/T population and total population of the State of the 6 S/T groups having population in-between 10,000 and 1 lac, 1971

Name of Scheduled Tribe	Population	Percentage of the population to	
		Total Scheduled Tribe population	Total State population
1	2	3	4
Patelia	48,763	1.31	0.18
Kunbi	34,643	0.93	0.13
Koli	30,241	0.18	0.11
Koli Dhor, Tokre Koli, Kolcha or Kolgha	29,465	0.79	0.11
Vitolia, Kotwalia or Barodia	12,902	0.35	0.05
Chodhara	11,118	0.30	0.04

The remaining 14 of the 30 Scheduled Tribes listed at the 1971 Census all have a population of less than 10,000. The name and population of each tribe are listed below:—

Barda (53 persons); Bavacha or Bamcha (2,383); Gond or Rajgond (619), Kathodi or Katkari, including

Dhor Kathodi or Dhor Katkari and Son Kathodi or Son Katkari (2,939); Pardhi, including Advichincher and Phanse Pardhi (2,684); Pomla (300); Siddi (4,482); Bharwad (531); Charan (1,700); Rabari (4,693); Padhar (4,758); Bhil (1,227); Paradhi (2,885) and Vaghri (4,487).

We began this chapter by observing that the Scheduled Castes and Tribes represented socially and economically backward communities of the State and also mentioned the constitutional provisions made to safeguard against their further social and economic exploitation and to promote their growth and improvement. Perhaps therefore it would be worthwhile to conclude this chapter by raising the question whether or not their condition has improved over the years. Unfortunately, however, the Census data available is too limited to provide a full and exhaustive answer to this question, and no data is available on the social and economic condition of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes to the agency of the Census. There is, however, data available on the literacy status among these communities. The status of literacy in a community can, in this case, serve as one suitable index of progress and freedom from the bonds of tradition and conservatism. It would therefore be useful to close this chapter with an examination of the status of literacy among the Scheduled castes and Tribes in the State. 30.45 per cent of the general population of the State in 1961 was literate. In 1971 the percentage of literacy in the general population has gone up to 35.79 per cent, thus marking an increase of 5.3 per cent. As against this, 22.46 per cent of the Scheduled Caste population was literate in 1961. In 1971, literacy among the Scheduled Castes has gone up, by 5.28 per cent, to 27.74 per cent. From this it might seem that the rise

in the level of literacy in the Scheduled Caste population is in accordance with the increase in the general population as a whole. However, illiteracy in the general population has also decreased from 69.55 per cent in 1961 to 64.21 per cent in 1971, thereby marking a decrease of 5.34 per cent in illiteracy. Furthermore, in the context of the traditional repression from which the Scheduled Caste population has suffered in the past, the present level of literacy in this population as compared to the level of literacy in the general population is quite encouraging. There is therefore reason to believe that these backward communities are getting free from the restraints that have kept them tightly bound in the past and that they are catching up with the general population.

The picture is however not so satisfactory in so far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned. Literacy among the Scheduled Tribes has been traditionally very low. This has been further compounded to a large extent by the continuing inaccessibility of the tribes in the difficult areas in which they live and their own disinclination towards education and learning due to which they have failed to take full advantage of the educational facilities which were made available in their areas. 11.69 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes population of the State was literate in 1961. During the 10 years up to 1971 the literacy level has improved by 2.43 per cent and has gone up to 14.12 per cent.

It is already seen in the above paragraphs that the Scheduled Caste population is more or less evenly distributed in all the districts of the State whereas the Scheduled Tribes are concentrated in some of the districts.

The level of literacy is also discussed among these castes and tribes in the above paragraphs. It would, however, be interesting to study the literacy rates among the males and females separately as well as in the rural and the urban areas of the State.

There are about 18.25 lakh persons enumerated under the various Scheduled Castes of the State and they form 6.84 per cent of the total State population. Out of these 18.25 lakh Scheduled Caste persons, about 5.06 lakh persons are literate. Thus the literates in the Scheduled Castes form 27.74 per cent of the total. Comparing with the general literacy level of the State, which is 35.79 per cent, this is no doubt significantly low. The percentage of literacy among the Scheduled Caste males comes to 39.89 per cent of the total males whereas those for females is only 14.95 per cent. This shows a wide gap in the literacy rates among males and females. Looking to the literacy figures for the rural and urban areas separately it would be seen that there is a considerable gap between the rural and the urban areas. In the rural areas the percentage of literacy is only 23.77 per cent against 38.35 per cent in the urban areas. If we examine these figure of the rural and urban areas separately for males and females it would appear that the literacy among males as well as females in the urban areas is considerably greater than that in the rural areas. The proportion of literate males in the urban areas forms 51.40 per cent of the Scheduled Caste population in the urban areas. Against this the literacy among males is only 35.40 per cent in the rural areas. Similarly nearly one-fourth or 23.75 per cent of the females in the urban areas are literate against the corresponding figure of only 11.80 per cent in the rural

areas. This shows that not only there is a difference in the literacy level between males and females but also in the rural and the urban areas. We would not examine these figures at length for each of the districts of the State. However, it would be interesting to note that the literacy rate among Scheduled Castes is minimum being only 11.80 per cent for those residing in Kutch District. On the other hand the literacy rate among the Scheduled Caste persons in Valsad District stands highest being 49.98 per cent. It would also be interesting to know the districts which stand above the State average. The districts of Mahesana (34.86 per cent), Gandhinagar (43.22 per cent), Ahmadabad (37.77 per cent), Kheda (37.68 per cent), Vadodara (35.52 per cent), Bharuch (34.95 per cent), Surat (45.23 per cent), Valsad (49.95 per cent) and The Dangs (47.11 per cent) are above the State average of 27.74 per cent. Here also the southern most districts of Surat, Valsad and The Dangs are happily placed. The rest of the districts fall below the State average in this regard. It would be interesting to note that the districts which are situated in the mainland of Gujarat (excluding Panch Mahals) have greater literacy rate in the Scheduled Castes as compared to the districts located in the Saurashtra peninsula, Kutch, Banas Kantha and Sabar Kantha.

Now let us examine the literacy rates among the Scheduled Tribes of the State. The literacy rates among these primitive and backward tribes can naturally be expected at a low level. The total population of the Scheduled Tribes in the State is 37.34 lakhs of which 5.27 lakhs are literate. Thus the literacy among the tribes comes to only 14.12 per cent. Looking to these figures separately for males and females we would notice a very wide

STATEMENT VIII.5

Total/Rural/Urban and sexwise distribution of literacy percentages Of S/C and S/T population of the State, 1971

State	Total Rural Urban	Percentage of literates in Scheduled Caste to total Scheduled Caste population			Percentage of literates in Scheduled Tribe to total Scheduled Tribe population		
		Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Gujarat	T	27.74	39.89	14.95	14.12	21.83	6.15
	R	23.77	35.40	11.80	13.46	21.04	5.68
	U	38.35	51.40	23.75	24.24	33.57	13.78

gap. Among the tribal males of the State the literacy rate is 21.83 per cent, whereas in the tribal females of the State it is only 6.15 per cent. If these figures are looked separately for rural and urban areas it would be found that the literacy rate in the rural areas is considerably lower than the urban areas. As against a literacy rate of 24.24 per cent in the urban areas the corresponding figure stands at only 13.46 per cent for the rural areas. Among the tribal males residing in the urban areas 33.57 per cent are literates whereas this rate in the tribal males living in the rural areas is only 21.04 per cent. The tribal females living in the urban areas have the literacy rates standing at 13.78 per cent. The corresponding figures of literacy among the tribal females living in the rural areas is only 5.68 per cent. Thus the literacy among the females is considerably low than the males in the tribal population. Similarly the rural urban differences are significantly high.

Let us look into the literacy rates among tribals in the districts wherein the tribals are concentrated. The tribals are mostly concentrated in Sabar Kantha, Panch Mahals, Vadodara, Bharuch, Surat, Valsad and The Dangs districts of the State. The literacy rate among the tribal in Sabar Kantha district is somewhat higher than the State average of 16.51 per cent. In the Panch Mahals district only 9.16 per cent of the tribals are literates. The literacy among the tribal males and females in this district is also considerably lower than the State average of 16.06 per cent for males and 2.00 per cent for females. About 11.32 per cent of the tribals in Vadodara district are literates whereas 13.83 per cent of the tribals of Bharuch district are literates. The similar figure in The Dangs district stands at 11.29 per cent. All these three districts also

stand on the lower side if they are compared with the State average. The literacy rate among the tribals living in Surat District and Valsad District is higher than the State average. In the former the literacy is 17.10 per cent whereas in the latter it is 18.55 per cent.

It is to be hoped that the efforts of society to absorb the Scheduled Castes and Tribes into the contemporary framework will eventually succeed and that these communities which have suffered for so long from social and economic backwardness and exploitation will eventually catch up with general population as a whole. While progress as judged by the index of literacy is slow it is nevertheless steady and sure. That in itself is an encouraging sign.

CHAPTER IX

OUR MAIN ACTIVITY

HAVING IN preceding chapters covered quite a few aspects relating to ourselves the one question that still remains to be investigated is the work we do. We in Gujarat constitute the ninth largest State in population size. What do we do to earn a living? Or what do those of us do who cannot for one reason or the other be economically active. In this chapter we shall answer these questions.

For this purpose we can divide ourselves broadly into the category of those that are economically active and those that are not. At the 1971 Census each individual was asked to indicate his main activity. That is to say he was asked to state what he did for most of his time. According to his answer his main activity was then recorded.¹ He could either be a worker—that is, he was economically active for the major portion of his time. Or he could be a non-worker—that is, he spent most of his time in non-economical pursuits such as household work or studies or living a retired life or even begging, etc. Those who returned themselves as students, retired persons or rentiers, dependants, beggars and as being engaged on household duties for the major portion of their time were classified as non-worker. Persons rendered incapable of participating in any economic activity on account of their being confined to institutions such as convicts in jails or inmates of penal, mental or charitable institutions, and all others who do not fall under these six categories of non-workers but were economically inactive were also

treated as non-workers. Any marginal contribution made by them towards minor economic activity was separately accounted for as subsidiary work. The workers, on the other hand, were first identified as falling into one or the other of four main economic activities as follows:

1. Cultivation
2. Agricultural labour
3. Household Industries
4. Other work

Those engaged in household industries and other work were then required to state further details concerning their work and, at the compilation and tabulation stage, were classified into different industrial categories according to the nature of their work. Ultimately all workers were classified into the following nine industrial categories according to the pattern of industrial classification presently prevailing in the country.

- I Cultivation
- II Agricultural Labour
- III Livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities
- IV Mining and Quarrying
- V(a) Household Industries
- V(b) Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs other than household industries

- VI Construction
- VII Trade and Commerce
- VIII Transport, Storage and Communications
- IX Other services
- X Non-workers

The concepts followed in respect of economic activity at the 1971 Census differ from that followed at the 1961 Census. At the previous Census a person was treated as economically active however little his contribution to work may have been and even if the main activity of such a person was that of a full-time student or housewife and other such categories as have, at the 1971 Census been treated as non-workers. Hence the broad classification of workers between 1961 and 1971 Census is not comparable. It is for this reason that in this chapter we will be confining ourselves to the results of the 1971 Census only and will be making no comparison with those of the previous Census as we have done in the case of other chapters.

The latest Census shows that out of our total State population of 26,697,475, 8,395,546 are workers and 18,301,929 are non-workers. Thus, 31.45 per cent of our total population are workers and 68.55 per cent are non-workers. This means that out of 10,000 persons of the population 3,145 are economically active and 6,855 have a main activity which does not qualify them for being considered as workers in the context of the definition that we have seen. The distribution of the 8,395,546

workers by industrial classification based on the nature of their work is as follows :

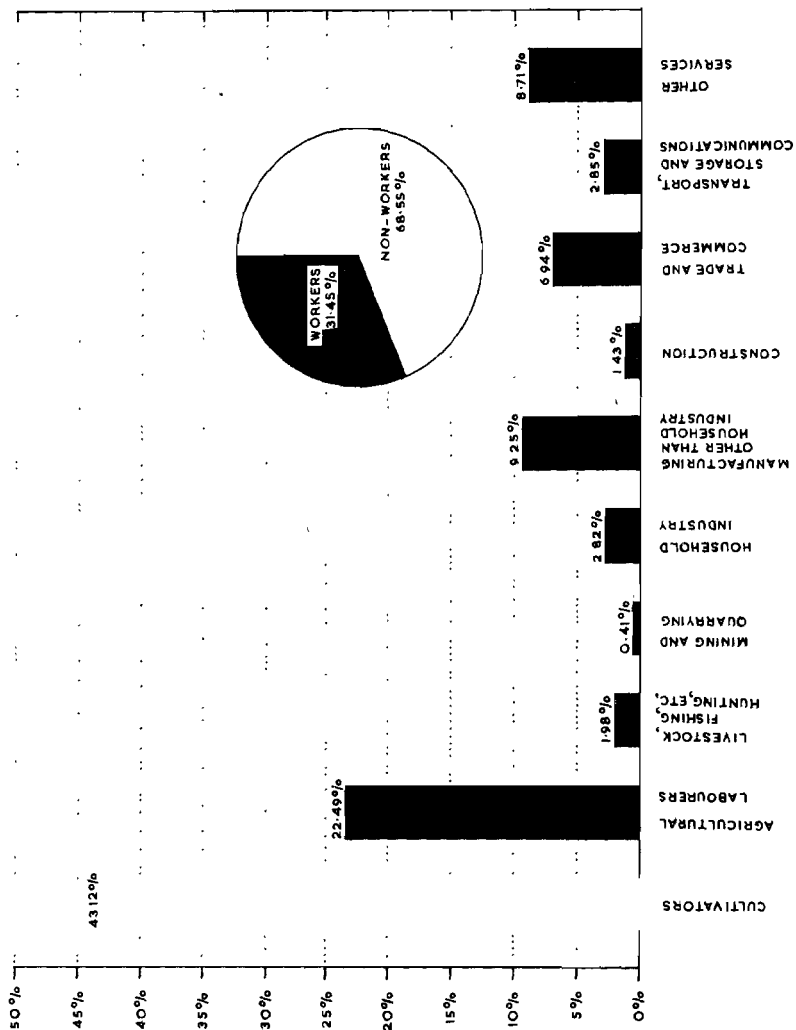
STATEMENT IX.1

Categorywise numbers and percentages of workers to total workers and total population of the State, 1971

Category	Number	Percentage of workers	Percentage of total population
Cultivation	3,619,997	43.12	13.56
Agricultural Labour	1,887,660	22.48	7.07
Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards and Allied Activities	166,518	1.98	0.62
Mining and Quarrying	34,772	0.41	0.13
Household Industries	236,572	2.82	0.89
Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs other than household industries	776,274	9.25	2.91
Construction	119,909	1.43	0.45
Trade and Commerce	582,617	6.94	2.18
Transport, Storage and Communications	239,699	2.86	0.90
Other Services	731,528	8.71	2.74

For the purpose of easier comprehension let us look at these figures slight differently. Let us therefore see the number of total workers in the various industrial sectors in relation to 10,000 workers. That is to say, what proportion of workers out of every 10,000 are engaged

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS, GUJARAT CENSUS, 1971



in the various sectors. We have already seen that the total number of workers is 8,395,546. Now tabulated below are the number of workers in the various sectors for every 10,000 workers.

STATEMENT IX.2

Categorywise distribution of workers for every 10,000 workers in the State, 1971

Category	Workers
Total	10,00
I Cultivation	4,312
II Agricultural labour	2,248
III Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards and Allied Activities	198
IV Mining and Quarrying	41
V(a) Household Industries	282
V(b) Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs other than Household Industries	925
VI Construction	143
VII Trade and Commerce	694
VIII Transport, Storage and Communications	286
IX Other Services	871

The distribution of the workers in the nine industrial categories as shown above would indicate that there are 4,312 workers engaged in cultivation per 10,000 workers in the State. Nearly half of it, i.e., 2,248 workers are found to have been engaged in agricultural labour. Thus the cultivators and agricultural labourers would account for 6,560 workers per 10,000 workers in the State. It is

followed by the workers engaged in manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs other than household industries which cover 925 workers per 10,000 workers in the State. The persons engaged in other services per 10,000 workers account for 871 workers. Trade and Commerce also cover significant proportion per 10,000 workers in the State. This category would cover 694 workers. In the rest of the categories the figure vary from the minimum of 41 workers in mining and quarrying to 286 in transport, storage and communications.

If these figures are examined separately for the rural and urban areas it would offer an interesting picture. It would be found that in the rural areas the majority of the workers are noticed in the first two categories of cultivators and agricultural labourers, whereas in the urban areas manufacturing, trade and commerce, transport and other services would absorb majority of the workers. In the rural areas there are 5,543 cultivators per 10,000 workers. Against this figure there are only 541 cultivators in the urban areas per 10,000 workers. The agricultural labourers per 10,000 workers account for 2,834 in the rural areas. The similar figure of agricultural labourers per 10,000 workers in the urban areas would be 455 only. In the urban areas largest proportion of workers is employed in manufacturing, repairing, servicing, etc. (other than household industries) whereas in rural areas this category covers only a limited number. In the urban areas 2,944 workers are noticed in this category per 10,000 workers whereas in the rural areas the figure stands at only 265 per 10,000 workers. Trade and commerce covers

1,990 workers per 10,000 workers in urban areas whereas this figure for rural areas only stands at 271. The other services also covers significant number of workers in the urban areas. Per 10,000 workers in the urban areas this category alone covers 2,330. Against this figure there are only 395 workers in this category in the rural areas. Transport and communications is also one of the important categories in the urban areas wherein it covers 838 workers per 10,000 workers, the corresponding figure for the rural areas in this category being only 105. In livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, etc., the proportion of workers in the rural areas is greater than the urban. In the rural areas there are 215 workers per 10,000 workers whereas in the urban areas the figure stands at 146 per 10,000 workers. Those engaged in construction also occupy an important position in the urban areas. They number 395 per 10,000 workers in the urban areas but in the rural areas the corresponding figure stands only at 61 which is significantly low. This would indicate that the structure of workers in rural and urban areas is considerably different. The primary sector absorbs a very large proportion of workers in the rural areas whereas secondary and tertiary sectors absorb large proportion in the urban areas. The primary sector covers 8,627 workers per 10,000 workers in the rural areas. In other words 86.27 per cent of the total workers are absorbed in the primary sector alone in the rural areas whereas in the urban areas it absorbs only 12.02 per cent of workers. The following table would indicate this difference in the rural and the urban areas.

STATEMENT IX 3.

Rural/Urban categorywise distribution of workers for every 10,000 workers in the State, 1971

Category	Workers	
	Rural	Urban
Total	10,000	10,000
I Cultivation	5,543	541
II Agricultural Labour	2,834	455
III Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards and Allied Acti- vities	215	146
IV Mining and Quarrying	35	60
V(a) Household Industries	276	301
V(b) Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs other than Household Industries	265	2,944
VI Construction	61	395
VII Trade and Commerce	271	1,990
VIII Transport, Storage and Communications .	105	838
IX Other Services	395	2,330

Let us now examine these figures separately for the males and females. It is already seen earlier that proportion of female workers in the total population is considerably lower than the males. However, it would be interesting to study the structural differences in the industrial categories of male and female workers. Per 10,000 male workers in the State, 4,487 are engaged in their own cultivation or say they are cultivators. As against this figure there are only 3,377 female workers noticed as cultivators per 10,000 female workers in the State. The males engaged as agricultural labourers number 1,765 per

10,000 male workers in the State. The corresponding figure for the females is considerably higher. Per 10,000 female workers in the State, there are 4,835 females engaged as agricultural labourers. Loosely speaking about half of the female workers are engaged as agricultural labourers. Male workers engaged in the manufacturing, repairing, servicing, etc., other than household industries number 1,042 per 10,000 male workers. The corresponding figure for females engaged in this industrial category would be of 297 per 10,000 female workers. The male workers engaged in other services number 878 per 10,000 male workers. The corresponding figure for females can be favourably compared as there are 834 female workers in this category per 10,000 female workers. In trade and commerce, and transport the proportion of male workers is significantly greater than the corresponding figure for females. In the former the figure stands at 794 and 331 per 10,000 workers respectively whereas in the latter the corresponding figures are 156 and 44 respectively. The following table would illustrate the structural difference in the industrial categories of the male and female workers.

STATEMENT IX 4.

Sexwise and categorywise distribution of workers for every 10,000 workers in the State, 1971

Category	Workers	
	Males	Females
1	2	3
Total	10,000	10,000
I Cultivation	4,487	3,377

1	2	3	4
II	Agricultural Labour	1,765	4,835
III	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards and Allied Activities	219	86
IV	Mining and Quarrying	42	40
V(a)	Household Industries	296	208
V(b)	Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs other than Household Industries	1,042	297
VI	Construction	146	123
VII	Trade and Commerce	794	156
VIII	Transport, Storage and Communications .	331	44
IX	Other Services	878	834

We may also examine with profit the broad pattern of the distribution of the population of the various districts of the State into workers and non-workers and into the various industrial categories and see if there are any major differences among the districts and examine the possible reason for the same. As we have already seen 31 out of every 100 persons at the State level are workers and 69 are non-workers. In the case of 8 districts the percentage of workers is 29 or above but below 30 per cent and that of non-workers is 70 per cent or above but below 71 per cent. These are the districts of Jamnagar, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Amreli, Sabar Kantha, Gandhinagar, Ahmadabad and Kheda. In no district is the proportion of the working force less than 28 per cent of the total district population. Mahesana district has a working force participation of 28.23 per cent. The percentage of the total

population that falls as workers and non-workers in respect of these nine districts is as follows :

STATEMENT IX 5.

Percentage of workers and non-workers in the districts having workers' percentage below the State average, 1971

District	Workers	Non-workers.
Jamnagar	29.78	70.22
Rajkot	29.69	70.31
Bhavnagar	29.55	70.45
Amreli	29.63	70.37
Sabar Kantha	29.24	70.76
Gandhinagar	29.66	70.34
Ahmadabad	29.35	70.65
Kheda	29.17	70.83
Mahesana	28.23	71.77

Thus we see that in the above districts there is no significant difference between the proportion of the population that falls into the categories of the workers and non-workers. In Surendranagar and Junagadh districts the working force is slightly higher. In Surendranagar 30.72 per cent of the total population are workers and in Junagadh 30.23 per cent are workers. In Banas Kantha the figure is even a little higher (31.02 per cent) and in Vadodara district a little higher than even that (32.06 per cent). Kutch district has a working force participation to the extent of 33.02 per cent of the district total population. In Bharuch district the work participation is to the extent of 35.31 per cent in Valsad to the extent of 35.45 per cent, in Panch Mahals district to the extent of 36.69 per cent,

in Surat district to the extent of 37.19 per cent and in The Dangs to the extent of 41.82.

Thus we see that in 12 out of the 19 districts of the State the proportion of the population that is economically active is lower in varying degrees than the State level average and that in the remaining seven districts it is higher than this average. In the case of Bharuch, Valsad, Panch Mahals, Surat and The Dangs districts the proportion of workers is much higher than that obtaining in the other districts as well as that obtaining at the State level as a whole.

In terms of the proportion of the working population in each of the categories the cultivation leads in the case of all districts except Ahmadabad, Bharuch and Surat districts. In Ahmadabad district cultivation claims only 15.46 per cent of the total working population. A much higher proportion is claimed by manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs other than household industries. The number of those engaged in other services is almost as high as those engaged in cultivation while of those engaged in trade and commerce is also nearly as high. In Bharuch district only 31 out of every 100 workers are engaged in cultivation whereas the proportion of those engaged in agricultural labour is 47 out of every 100. In Surat district the pattern is similar. Here 27 out of every 100 workers are engaged in cultivation as against 33 out of 100 in agricultural labour. In all other districts the maximum number of workers are engaged in cultivation, though the margin between those engaged in cultivation and those engaged in agricultural labour is quite narrow in the case of workers in Vadodara

district. Apart from Bharuch and Surat districts where the high proportion of agricultural labourers has been noted above the proportion of agricultural labourers in Valsad, Kheda, Gandhinagar, Mahesana, Kutch and Surendranagar districts is also quite high. By contrast, the proportion of agricultural labourers to the total working population of the district is as low as 7.78 in Panch Mahals and is also comparatively low in Jamnagar, Rajkot and Ahmadabad districts. In the case of Panch Mahals this disproportion is accounted for by the fact that this district has by far the highest proportion of its workers engaged in cultivation. In the case of Ahmadabad the explanation lies in the fact that its working population is more evenly distributed into a number of sectors than is the case in other districts. The same also holds true to a lesser extent in respect of Jamnagar district.

The proportion of workers engaged in livestock, forestry, orchards, etc., is more or less nearly the same in almost all the districts, though the difference between the districts with the lowest proportion of workers in this sector and that with the highest proportion is nearly to the order of 5 per cent. Panch Mahals where only 0.46 per cent of the working population of the district is engaged in this sector is the lowest followed by Vadodara district with 0.63 per cent. Kutch district has the highest proportion of its working population in this category. 5.09 per cent of its workers are engaged in this sector.

Household industries claim a nearly equal proportion of the workers of each district in almost all the districts. The highest proportion of the workers in household industries is in Amreli district where four out of every

100 persons are engaged in this sector. In Jamnagar, Rajkot, Surendranagar, Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Kutch, Banas Kantha, Sabar Kantha, Mahesana and Surat the proportion of workers engaged in household industries is above three per cent, but below four per cent. In the case of Gandhinagar, Ahmadabad, Kheda and Valsad districts the figure is between two and three per cent and in the case of Panch Mahals, Vadodara, Bharuch and The Dangs districts one and two per cent.

More extreme variations prevail as regards the participation of the working force in manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs other than household industries. We have already noted the high proportion of the working population of Ahmadabad district engaged in this sector and have seen that nearly 29 out of every 100 working persons in this district are accounted for by this sector. In the case of Surat the figure is 16 while that in the case of Vadodara is nearly 11 and that in the case of Rajkot and Valsad is nearly 10 and, in Jamnagar and Gandhinagar, 9. In Surendranagar, Bhavnagar between seven and eight per cent of the population is accounted for by this sector while in Kheda the proportion lies between six and seven per cent and that in Junagadh and Mahesana between five and six per cent. In all the other districts it is less than five per cent. It is the lowest in The Dangs district where 17 out of 10,000 workers are to be found in this sector.

The proportion of the population accounted for by construction in the various districts does not vary very greatly among the districts. It is highest in Gandhinagar district where 4 out of 100 workers are engaged in this

sector. This is understandable in view of the fact that the capital township at Gandhinagar engages a large labour force on its construction sites. In the case of Bhavnagar, Amreli, Banas Kantha, Kheda and Panch Mahals districts less than 100 out of every 10,000 workers are engaged in this sector. In Jamnagar, Rajkot, Surendranagar, Junagadh, Kutch, Sabar Kantha, Mahesana, Vadodara, Bharuch, Valsad and The Dangs districts between 100 and 200 persons out of every 10,000 workers are to be found in the construction sector. For Ahmadabad district the figure is 227 out of 10,000 workers and for Surat it is 376 out of 10,000.

We have also noted that a larger proportion of the population in Ahmadabad district is to be found engaged in trade and commerce than is the case with any other district. In Ahmadabad 14 out of every 100 workers are engaged in trade and commerce. The next highest proportion is noticed in Rajkot where the figure is 9, while in the case of Bhavnagar and Junagadh it is 8. Jamnagar, Kutch and Mahesana share fourth place with seven out of 100 workers engaged in trade and commerce and Surendranagar, Amreli and Vadodara districts follow in the next place with six out of 100 workers in this field. In Banas Kantha, Sabar Kantha, Kheda and Surat districts the proportion is to the order of 5.15 per cent, 5.88 per cent, 5.98 per cent and 5.89 per cent respectively. Gandhinagar, Bharuch and Valsad districts fall next in order with 4.72 per cent, 4.61 per cent and 4.16 per cent respectively. Panch Mahals and the Dangs districts come at the bottom of the ladder with 2.88 per cent and 1.27 per cent respectively.

STATEMENT IX 6.

Distribution of districts by the number of persons per 100 workers engaged in "Transport, Storage and Communications", 1971

Less than 1	1 to 2	2+ to 3	3+ to 4	4+ to 5	5+ to 6
The Dangs	Amreli	Surendranagar	Rajkot	Nil	Kutch
	Banas Kantha	Junagadh	Jamnagar		Ahmadabad
	Sabai Kantha	Mahesana	Bhavnagar		
	Panch Mahals	Gandhinagar			
	Bharuch	Kheda			
		Vadodara			
		Surat			
		Valsad			

Finally, we come to the services sector where all other services not accounted for by the groups already discussed have been grouped. If we were to group the districts according to the number of persons engaged in the 'other services' sector per every 100 of workers as we have done above we would get the following results.

STATEMENT IX.7.

Distribution of districts by the number of persons per 100 workers engaged in "Other Services", 1971

3 to 4	4+ to 5	5+ to 6	6+ to 7	7+ to 8
The Dangs	Panch Mahals	Bharuch Banas Kantha	Amreli Sabar Kantha	Valsad Surat Mahesana
8+ to 9	9+ to 10	10+ to 11	11+ to 12	15+
Kheda Junagadh Surendra- nagar	Kutch	Bhavnagar Vadodara	Jamnagar Rajkot Gandhinagar	Ahmadabad

Out of the above the question may arise whether the sectorial distribution of the working population gives some indication of the industrial growth or other economic changes in local areas. We have already remarked on the comparatively low proportion of the working population of Ahmadabad district engaged in cultivation and have observed that this is accounted for by the considerable industrial diversification that is to be found in this

district, particularly in Ahmadabad City and its other neighbouring urban centres. The figures also show a comparatively low agricultural population in Vadodara district where the proportion of agricultural labourers is nearly equal to that of the cultivators. The increasing industrial growth in Vadodara district is reflected in the comparatively high proportion of its working population that is engaged in manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs other than household industries. The same is also true of Surat district where a higher proportion of the working population is engaged in manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs other than household industries than in the case of Vadodara district where the proportion of cultivators is more than six per cent higher than that of Surat district. Kutch district has a comparatively higher proportion of its workers engaged in livestock rearing, forestry, fishing, hunting and other allied activities than is the case with the other districts. It is well known that livestock rearing is an important occupation in Kutch and this is reflected in the comparatively higher proportion of the working population that is engaged in this category of industrial activity than in the other districts.

The fact that Jamnagar is one of the richest mining areas of the State is also reflected by the fact that it is the only district where the proportion of workers engaged in mining and quarrying is higher than 1 per cent. We have already remarked upon the fact that Gandhinagar district returned a higher proportion of workers engaged in construction than other districts and have observed how this is accounted for by the fact of a large working force engaged on construction work on the new capital

township coming up at Gandhinagar. Ahmadabad district has acquired first rank in the proportion of the workers engaged in trade and commerce. This is accounted for more than anything else by the influence of trading and commercial establishments in Ahmadabad City and the adjoining urban centres. The city and these adjoining centres are similarly responsible for the high proportion of the working population of Ahmadabad district accounted for by the 'other services' sector.

We have specially devoted the last preceding chapter to a consideration of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. You will recall our observing that these communities represent such sections of our population as have been traditionally socially and economically backward and have tended to suffer from a long period of exploitation. You will also recall our observing how provision has been made in the Constitution of our country to take special care to prevent their further social and economic exploitation and to promote their welfare. We have also taken the level of literacy among the Scheduled Castes and Tribes as one possible index of the change in their former condition. Another possible index that we may in this concluding chapter examine in respect of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes is the pattern of their occupations as compared to the occupational pattern in the general population of the State.

A higher proportion of the Scheduled Tribes population is engaged in cultivation and agricultural labour than the Scheduled Castes population or the general population. 36.59 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes population depends on these two sectors as against 21.41 per

cent of the Scheduled Castes population and 20.63 per cent of the general population. Nearly 14 out of every 100 persons of the general population are cultivators as against 6 among the Scheduled Castes and about 20 among the Scheduled Tribes. Similarly 7 out of 100 persons in the general population are dependant on agricultural labour as against 15 among the Scheduled Castes and 17 among the Scheduled Tribes.

The proportion of the general population that is engaged in livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and other allied activities is, however, higher in the general population than among either the Scheduled Castes or the Tribes. 62 out of 10,000 population in the general population are engaged in this sector as against 15 among the Scheduled Castes and 39 among the Scheduled Tribes.

The Scheduled Castes, however, lead in the mining and quarrying, household industries, manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs other than household industries and construction sectors. They also lead in transport, storage and communications and other services. 28 out of every 10,000 persons among the Scheduled Castes are engaged in mining and quarrying as against 13 in the general population and 9 among the Scheduled Tribes.

In household industries the Scheduled Castes have 170 persons out of 10,000 in this field as against 89 in the case of the general population and 28 in the case of the Scheduled Tribes population. The Scheduled Castes also lead in manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs other than household industries, where 347 out of every

10,000 persons are engaged, as against 291 in the case of the general population and 94 in the case of the Scheduled Tribes population. In construction also a higher proportion of the Scheduled Caste population is engaged than the other two groups. 79 out of 10,000 persons among the Scheduled Castes are to be found in the construction sector as against 45 in the general population and 32 among the Scheduled Tribes.

The Scheduled Tribes and Castes have almost equal proportion of their population engaged in trade and commerce, where the general population has an edge over these two groups. 218 out of 10,000 of the general population are engaged in trade and commerce as against 35 in the Scheduled Castes and 34 among the Scheduled Tribes. However, in transport, storage and communications the Scheduled Castes again assert their greater participation. As against 90 persons out of 10,000 in the general population that are found engaged in this field the number of Scheduled Caste members in this sector is 91 and that of Scheduled Tribe members is 36. In the 'other services' sector also the Scheduled Castes have a greater participation than the other two groups. 391 out of every 10,000 Scheduled Caste members are engaged in this sector as against 274 in the case of the general population and 104 in the case of the Scheduled Tribe population.

Thus we see that both the Scheduled Castes and Tribes are marching along side by side with the general population and that fields which were once closed to them either on account of social taboos or the isolation of the areas where

these groups resided are now apparently open to them and all the evidence goes to show that they are taking full advantage of it. What is perhaps most encouraging is the fact that a lower proportion of the population of Scheduled Castes and Tribes is in the category of non-workers than of the general population. As against nearly 69 out of every 100 persons in the general population that are economically inactive the figure for Scheduled Castes is 67 and that for the Scheduled Tribes is nearly 60. This indicates a greater work participation on the part of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes as compared to the general population.

CHAPTER X

SUMMING UP

OUR PORTRAIT is now complete. We have put it together out of bits and pieces of information that the latest Census of our country has given us. It is time now to stand back a little and view this portrait from a distance; to get away from the detailed bits and pieces and view the whole.

Gujarat is one of the 21 States of India. It claims, 195,984 square kilometres (provisional) out of the total provisional geographical area of 3,280,483 square kilometres of the country and 26,697,475 people out of the total national population of 547,949,809. Thus, nearly 6 square kilometres out of every 100 of the total geographical area of the country falls in Gujarat State and nearly 5 out of every 100 people in the country live in Gujarat.

Our population of 26,697,475 is spread out over 19 districts containing 184 talukas, 18,697 villages and 216 towns and cities. Of this population 13,802,494 are males and 12,894,981 are females. Thus, about 52 out of every 100 persons in the State are males and 48 are females. If it were possible to spread out our entire population evenly throughout the boundaries of the State our numbers per km.² would be 136 persons. Given the higher proportion of the male population the number of females per 1000 males is 934.

The population comprises a total of 4,684,456 households of which 4,610,687 households are residential

households whereas 58,987 households are entirely houseless and 14,782 households are institutional households. In terms of members 26,281,526 persons live in residential houses, 251,170 persons are houseless and 164,779 persons live in institutional households.

Since 1961 our population has increased by 29.39 per cent. This represents the latest stage of a consistent and steady trend that is visible since 1911 (except in 1951). Our population increased in that year over 1901 by 7.79 per cent. In 1921 it registered an increase of 3.79 per cent and in 1931 of 12.92 per cent. At 1941, 1951 and 1961 it increased over the previous decade by 19.25 per cent, 18.69 per cent and 26.88 per cent respectively. At the rate at which our population is growing it is anticipated that by the year 1981 our population is likely to be 33,195,000.

7,496,500 persons out of our total population live in the 216 towns and cities of our State and 19,200,975 persons live in the villages. Thus, 28 out of every 100 persons in our State live in urban areas and cities and the remaining 72 out of every 100 in rural areas.

The rural population occupies a total of 3,214,634 houses and the urban population occupies a total of 1,342,340 houses. Thus, out of every 100 residential houses 71 are rural and 29 are urban. The average village has a population of 1,051 persons and the average town has a population of 34,706 persons. However, the distance between the smallest and the biggest villages is quite extreme. The smallest village has a population of only 1 person as against which the largest village has a population of 20,211 persons. Thus the population of our

largest village is bigger than the population of our smallest town. Beyt in Jamnagar district is our smallest town and has a population of only 3,671. By comparison, the largest urban centre is Ahmadabad City which has a population of 15,91,832 persons.

However, the maximum number of our villages consist of not more than 200 houses. 7,904 villages are such as have less than 100 occupied houses and 5,300 villages are such as have only 100 to 199 occupied houses. 3,411 villages have between 200 to 399 occupied houses. The number of villages having a larger number of occupied houses is small. Only 578 villages have between 400 to 499 occupied houses, 898 villages have between 500 to 999 occupied houses, 165 villages have between 1,000 to 1,999 occupied houses and only 10 villages have between 2000 to 4999 occupied houses. No village in the State has 5000 or more occupied houses.

Among urban centres we have seven cities with a population range of 100,000 and more, 18 towns in the population range of 50,000 to 99,999, 42 towns in the population range of 20,000 to 49,999, 73 towns in the population range of 10,000 to 19,999, 71 towns in the population range of 5,000 to 9,999 and 5 towns where the population is below 5,000.

As we have seen our total population of 26,697,475 consists of 13,802,494 males and 12,894,981 females. This gives an average of 934 females per 1000 male population. The number of females per 1000 males in the rural areas is 951 and that in the urban areas is 893. Thus we see that

the sex ratio, is better balanced in the rural areas than in the urban areas.

Looking at the age of our population we find that the highest proportion of the population is in the youngest age group of 0-14 years and the next higher proportion in the age group of 15-39 years. 43 out of every 100 persons of our population are in the age group 0-14, 37 in the age group 15-39, 15 in the age group 40-59 and 5 in the age group of 60 years and above. Looking at the age of our population separately for rural and urban areas we find that 45 out of every 100 persons in the rural population are in the 0-14 age group, 35 in the 15-39 age group, 15 in the 40-59 age group and 5 in the 60 and above age group. The corresponding figures for the urban population for these four age groups are 40, 41, 15 and 4 respectively.

The number of those among our population who can read and write is 9,555,289. Thus 36 persons out of every 100 of our population are literate. Literacy has gone up in 1971 by 5.34 per cent over 1961. At the latest Census 46 out of every 100 males are literate and 25 out of every 100 females are literate. Our State ranks fourth in the country in the matter of literacy: At the national level 29.46 per cent of the population is literate. Gujarat, where 35.79 per cent of the population is literate, thus has a higher literacy level than the national average and has the fourth highest level of literacy after Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra in that order. Literacy is naturally higher in the urban areas than in the rural areas. In the rural areas 28 out of every 100 persons of the rural

population can read and write while in the urban areas 55 out of every 100 persons are literate.

At the latest Census our population returned a total of 172 mother-tongues. The chief among these are Gujarati, Urdu, Kachchhi, Hindi, Marathi, Sindhi, Kokna/Kokni/Kukna, Chodhari, Gamti/Gavit and Bhili/Bhilodi. Among them these ten mother-tongues claim 98.03 per cent of the total State population leaving only 1.97 per cent to the remaining 162 mother-tongues. The population speaking each of these ten chief mother-tongues and all the other mother-tongues collectively and the proportion that this represents of the total State population are as follows:

STATEMENT X.1

Ranking of mother-tongues on the basis of number of speakers and their percentage to total population of the State, 1971

Name of the mother-tongue	Population speaking	Percentage of total population
Gujarati	23,856,955	89.36
Urdu	5,79,224	2.17
Kachchhi	405,569	1.52
Hindi	337,501	1.26
Marathi	258,069	0.97
Sindhi	201,894	0.76
Kokna/Kokni/Kukna	142,942	0.53
Chodhari	138,978	0.52
Gamti/Gavit	136,209	0.51
Bhili/Bhilodi	113,967	0.43
All others	526,167	1.97

Similarly, the latest Census returned a total of 93 names for religion being followed by the population. However, the majority of the returns represent names of sects and sub-sects of the main parent religions and claim very minor proportion of the population. The majority of our population follows Hinduism, followed next in rank in terms of numerical strength by Islam, Jainism, Christianity, Sikhism and Buddhism. The number of persons following each of these religions and all others collectively and of those not returning any religion and the percentage that the number represent of the total population of the State is as follows:—

STATEMENT X.2

Ranking of religions on the basis of no. of followers and their percentage to total population of the State, 1971

Name of religion	Number of persons	Percentage of total population
Hinduism	23,835,471	89.28
Islam	2,249,055	8.42
Jainism	451,578	1.69
Christianity	109,341	0.41
Sikhism	18,233	0.07
Buddhism	5,469	0.02
Other religions and persuasions	18,781	0.07
Religion not stated	9,547	0.04

Finally, we have seen that out of a total population of 26,697,475 persons in the State 8,395,546 persons are economically active. Thus 31 out of every 100 persons in the State are workers and the remaining 69 are non-workers. Of the workers, 4,312 out of every 10,000 are engaged in cultivation, 2,248 in agricultural labour, 198 in livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities, 41 in mining and quarrying, 282 in household industries, 925 in manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs other than household industries, 143 in construction, 694 in trade and commerce, 286 in transport, storage and communications and 871 in other services. The distribution of workers in the rural and urban area according to industrial classification does naturally follow slightly different patterns. The percentage of the rural population that is economically active is 32.96 per cent and that of the urban population is 27.57 per cent. Out of every 10,000 workers in the two respective areas the numbers that are claimed by the various industrial categories are as follows:

STATEMENT X.3

Rural/Urban and categorywise distribution of workers for every 10,000 workers in the State, 1971

Industrial category	Number of workers in this category per 10,000 workers	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
I Cultivation	5,543	541
II Agricultural labour	2,834	455

	1	2	3
III Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations etc.		215	146
IV Mining and Quarrying		35	60
V(a) Household Industries		276	301
V(b) Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs other than Household Industry		265	2,944
VI Construction		61	395
VII Trade and Commerce		271	1,990
VIII Transport, Storage and Communications		105	838
IX Other Services		395	2,330

The Portrait that we have constructed can be said to show up a microcosm of the country as a whole. We have the same harmonious intermingling of many religions, many tongues, many ways of life coinhabiting a common land and making up the rich fabric of the life of our land. The same similarity of pattern is revealed in the matter of the distribution of the population by sex, by rural and urban distribution, literacy age groups and in the matter of its occupational distribution and growth rate. The portrait shows us moving together with our other sister states, a little ahead here, a little behind elsewhere, but in step together with the rest in most areas.